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KENT ON SUNDAY

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HIGH COST OF OUR MENTAL HEALTH

Treatment bill has increased by £9 million in just one year

EXCLUSIVE

By MARIJKE COX

AS THE Government seeks to rein in public spending, the cost of mental illness has soared as NHS and social service chiefs face up to Kent and Medway's poor mental health.

New statistics revealed £152 million was spent across the whole county in the financial year 2009-10 – up significantly from 2008-09 when the cost was £143m.

The figures take into account not only spending by health and social care services, but costs of sick leave and unemployment, lost output in the economy, and the human costs of reduced quality of life.

It did not include the cost of care by GPs, prescribing, or high-security services, meaning the true amount spent in Kent is significantly higher.

Lauretta Kavanagh, director of commissioning for mental health in Kent and Medway, put the £9m rise down to increased understanding of the need for investment in mental health, plus a cost of living rise.

She said: "The element which is an increase in investment reflects the increased recognition by the NHS and social services in Kent and Medway of the enormous cost to individuals, families, and society as a whole of poor mental health."

Ms Kavanagh said some of the money went towards developing services so people could get more help at an earlier stage.

"This comes with a price tag, but it will reduce the overall cost to society as well as the distress caused to patients, their families and friends," she said.

Funding for mental health goes on services including psychological therapies, support in the community and in-patient care.

Money also goes towards social care to support people living with mental health needs.

In Kent and Medway, 163,000-190,000 people have common mental health problems such as anxiety and depression, which can be caused by debt, unemployment, poor health and isolation.

Some 60,000 people across the county have severe mental illness, such as extreme depression or post-traumatic stress.

Twelve thousand people have severe and enduring mental illness, for example

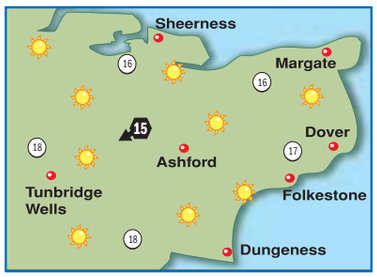
CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Nigella dishes up a tasty treat for her hungry fans

FULL STORY – SEE INSIDE

*Includes all surcharges and taxes. See website for details and full terms and conditions.

Kent today



TODAY: A dry and sunny day with mostly clear blue skies and just a little thin high cloud around. There will be a light to moderate easterly breeze. Max temp 16-19C (61-66F). **TONIGHT:** Staying dry with late sunshine. Breezy with moderate easterly winds. Min temp 8-11C (46-52F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	cloudy	12	54	London	sun	19	66
Belfast	sun	15	59	Liverpool	sun	17	63
Birmingham	fair	17	63	Manchester	fair	16	61
B'mouth	fair	20	68	Newcastle	cloudy	13	55
Bristol	sun	18	64	Norwich	sun	17	63
Cardiff	fair	18	64	Oxford	sun	17	63
Cork	cloudy	16	61	Southsea	sun	20	68
Edinburgh	cloudy	13	55	S'hampton	fair	19	66
Glasgow	fair	15	59	Southport	sun	17	63
Isle of Man	sun	15	59	Swansea	sun	18	64
Leeds	fair	14	57	Torquay	sun	19	66

Sun & moon

Sunrise	7.11am	Sunset	6.13pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	11.00am	Moonset	7.07pm	6.13pm to 7.12am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	00.56	6.9	13.15	7.0	01.38	6.8	13.57	6.8
Margate	01.59	4.9	14.17	5.1	02.40	4.8	15.01	5.0
St Mary's	06.51	6.0	19.12	5.8	07.32	5.8	19.52	5.5

Week ahead

monday Fine but breezy. max 18C min8C

tuesday Dry and sunny. max 15C min 6C

wednesday Cloudy. max 13C min 5C

thursday Dull and damp. max 14C min 6C

friday Sunny spells. max 14C min 6C

saturday Showers. max 15C min 7C

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Rising cost of mental health care

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. In deprived areas such as Thanet and Dover, mental health issues are more prevalent.

A strategy called Live it Well has been developed by Kent County Council, Medway Council and the three primary care trusts, which cover west Kent, eastern and coastal and Medway – the first local plan of its kind.

It looks to promote the mental wellbeing of everyone and ensure those with mental health problems get the care they need.

The plan also aims to develop non-medical alternatives to drug interventions, improve the passage from child and adolescent mental health services to adult facilities, and to develop liaison psychiatry teams in all acute hospitals in Kent and Medway. Ms Kavanagh said: "The strategy starts from the premise that there is no health without mental health and emphasises the crucial importance of promotion in helping people to stay well in mind.

"NHS Medway, NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent and NHS West Kent, along with Kent County Council and Medway Council, are working together to raise awareness of the five ways to wellbeing – actions that people can take to enhance their wellbeing and reduce their risk of anxiety and depression."

These include contact with others, keeping active, appreciating positive things, education, and helping other people.

Cllr Graham Gibbens, KCC cabinet member for Kent adult social services, said good mental health is at the heart of life and community.

"The principles and services behind Live it Well are important and valuable and I am delighted that health and social care services are coming together to provide support that can make a real difference to people's lives," he said.

Live it Well makes 10 commitments, including reducing the number of people with common mental health problems, ensuring people have easy access to care in a crisis, and reducing the number of suicides.

The launch of the strategy coincides with World Mental Health Day on Sunday.

• ***For more information, click on www.liveitwell.co.uk.***

Council officials face the axe in money-saving bid

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A POTENTIAL cull of senior management at County Hall is to be discussed by councillors tomorrow.

Big wigs' roles could be examined for their "fitness for purpose" under a proposed shake-up of the top-level structure of Kent County Council.

A report by KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter and group managing director Katherine Kerswell outlined the need to transform senior levels of management.

Councillors will be asked to support Ms Kerswell's recommendation to start a formal consultation process with staff who could be affected by any changes.

In the Change to keep Succeeding report, she states: "We need to examine the most senior posts that we have in this organisation.

"We must ensure that they, along with all the other roles and services, are fit for purpose and that the overhead costs they represent are appropriate."

The move aims to help cut the authority's budget, which needs to be reduced by £340 million over the next four years.

The report will be looked at in conjunction with the council's draft medium-term plan, Bold Steps for Kent, outlining details of the proposed changes at senior level, including:

- A review of salary levels.
- The introduction of a voluntary redundancy process.
- The removal of contractual bonuses.
- A new organisational structure and competency framework.

Discussions will come just a week before chancellor George Osborne announces the comprehensive spending review.

In the KCC report, Cllr Carter and Ms Kerswell praised the "talents and energies" of the council's most senior managers, but admitted the benefits were not without significant cost to the taxpayer.

Cost-effective

"In lowering costs and raising productivity, all layers of management need to be examined to assure cost-effectiveness," they said.

On Monday cabinet members will be asked to agree to a review of salary levels of senior staff, carried out by management consulting firm Hay Group.

The review will look at the level of responsibility and accountability of each role and recommend an appropriate level of salary.

Proposals also include removing current contractual bonuses and bringing senior performance pay in line with the Total Contribution Pay scheme already in place for other KCC staff.

An in-depth supporting document to the report was not available to KOS Media, with a KCC spokesman saying the content was restricted. But in Change to keep Succeeding Ms Kerswell and Cllr Carter said the planned changes would make the authority "fitter for purpose".

"It is crucial that the council's senior management arrangements are reviewed to assure members that value for money is secured and that these managers can together drive though the essential changes required across the county," they wrote.

"In usual times, top-level organisational changes can help drive change through organisations. In times of tightening fiscal constraint they are essential to drive even deeper change throughout services and organisations."

The report also focused on the need for senior management to carry out changes that are needed over the coming period.

"In order to deliver sustainable levels of budget savings we will require organisational courage and resilience from members and officers alike.

"Senior managers need to possess competencies and capabilities to take the whole organisation forward and they need to possess the collective confidence to take the next bold steps."

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Food from the heart

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

SEDUCTIVE culinary icon Nigella Lawson is bringing a sprinkle of nostalgia with a modern-day twist to food lovers in Kent.

And the domestic goddess is hoping her new book, Kitchen: Recipes From The Heart Of The Home, will relate to the county's cooks.

Speaking to KOS Media ahead of a book signing at Waterstone's in Bluewater on Thursday, Lawson said she wanted to write a book which reflected real life.

And focusing on the nation's recent passion for local produce, Lawson admitted she thought life was not always accommodating enough to allow people to only buy local.

"Kent has always been the Garden of England, but it shouldn't be about making people feel bad all the time if they are not using local produce," she said.

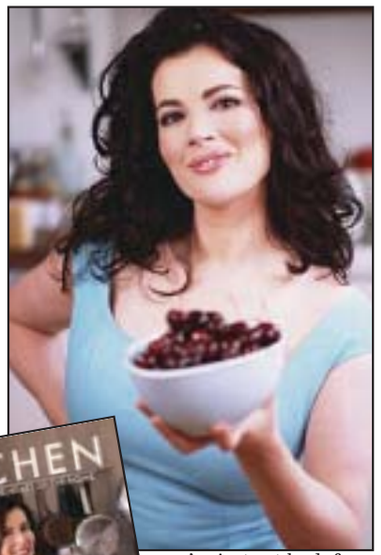
"Anything that benefits communities and farmers is a good thing, but it shouldn't be made an issue if somebody buys something from a supermarket.

"It's good that it's more possible to buy local here in Kent. I live in London so it's not always feasible for me to buy vegetables that are locally produced."

The 50-year-old, who is daughter of former chancellor Nigel Lawson and wife of advertising executive and art collector Charles Saatchi, said her book includes recipes for everything from the working week to relaxed weekends, ranging from traditional to contemporary cooking.

"People are often busy during the week and in the evenings," she said.

"My book has express recipes from when you've just got back from work and want to be spared the trouble of cooking, and other recipes for when there is more time," she said.



KITCHEN GODDESS: Nigella Lawson will be coming to the county to sign copies of her latest recipe book

"But even if people cook quickly I want it to taste delicious. I also wanted to do some old fashioned food, too."

Lawson, who has never undergone any culinary training, offers tips ranging from what to do with black bananas to the best way to cook leftovers. And she also offers new recipes ranging from clams with chorizo, to Guinness gingerbread as well as kitchen must-haves and magical standby ingredients.

Describing her book she said: "It is simply the story of my love affair with the kitchen.

"The kitchen isn't just the room in which I cook, it's the place where I live. Part hub, part haven, the kitchen is where, I've always found, people speak more freely than anywhere else."

With autumn almost in full swing, Lawson said people should be eating carbohydrates and spices.

"I'm thinking about a toad in the hole, or meatloaf, or belly of pork," she said.

Asked whether she has a favourite food, Lawson admitted potatoes would be the one thing she would eat for the rest of her life if she had to make a choice.

"Potatoes are high up there because you can eat them in so many different ways," she said.

Lawson, who is the author of seven best-selling books, including How to Eat: The Pleasures and Principles of Good Food, and Nigella Express: Good Food Fast, is also fronting a new BBC Two series, Nigella Kitchen, on Thursdays at 8pm.

"This programme represents a week of cooking – there are no themed episodes," she said. "My book wasn't meant to coincide with the TV show. My books are not a tie-in to the TV programmes – I do books first," she said.

"TV is a way of showing people how beautiful something is though. I might have a sauce that people can't see yet and then I can show them.

"People can also see I chop the same way as them – I'm not a trained chef, I'm a cook – I don't talk down to people.

"I give a running commentary when I cook when I'm with friends. The only difference when I'm on TV is I have my hair and make-up done, there's special lighting and you only see half an hour of it."

Union man dies

MALCOLM Pitt, a former president of the Kent branch of the National Union of Mineworkers, has died aged 66 after a short illness.

He worked at Tilmanstone Colliery before becoming more involved with the union.

Mr Pitt was also a member of the Communist Party of Great Britain and was heavily involved in the miners' strike of 1984-5. He was sent to prison for a brief time because of his activities during the dispute.

Twelve jobs cut

HOLIDAY Extras has seen a dozen of its employees go in a restructuring of its business, but said it is still recruiting in other areas.

The company, based in Newingreen near Hythe, sells travel add-ons such as airport parking and said it was still seeing strong growth despite the recession.

All the employees who left did so voluntarily and there were no compulsory redundancies, a spokeswoman said.

The restructure has also seen the creation of 14 new roles, including head of product innovation for development and merchandising and a head of web technology.

To see this clip search 'brewing' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Stephanie Durling explains the Hops and Downs Beer Trail, and Kent's beer brewing heritage

War leader's words make chart history

WINSTON CHURCHILL, who made his home in Kent, has made pop history after entering the charts, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

The man heralded as our greatest leader ever, is now the first British PM to storm the record charts, 136 years after he was born.

An album named Reach for the Skies was released to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

The album flew straight to number four on the BBC album chart. This is the highest chart position ever achieved by a military band.

It is performed by the Central Band of the RAF, which includes Margate man, Flight Sergeant Terry Gardner, 45.

He is one of 36 band members on the LP, which is the official album of the Battle of Britain.

The trombone player said of the World War Two pilots: "They were absolutely incredible and we all owe them a great deal."

Among the tracks are classics such as Fanfare for the Common Man and the Dambusters March, plus musical versions of Winston Churchill's stirring history-changing speeches from Britain's darkest hour in the 1940s.

The album bears the inscription: "Dedicated to all the men and women who fought in the Battle of Britain. Remembering 'The Few'."

CHART STAR: Winston Churchill

Official Charts Company managing director Martin Talbot said: "It is great that to a long list of Official Chart stars including Elvis, Madonna and The Beatles, we can now add Winston Churchill.

"It is also a tribute to the amazing sacrifices of our servicemen that the British public have bought this RAF album in such large numbers."

And Dickon Stainer, president of record label Decca, added: "Churchill's speeches are as potent today as they were 70 years ago when they motivated the RAF to one of the greatest victories in British history."

Wing Commander Duncan Stubbs, director of the band: "If through our music we can help keep the tradition and spirit of the Battle of Britain alive, then we have done a good job."

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KoS chief hits the Inca Trail for kids' charities

BEING dropped into the middle of the Amazon jungle, home to some of the most dangerous species of wildlife in the world, would be most people's idea of a nightmare, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

And as for trekking thousands of metres above sea level with risk of altitude sickness and exhaustion – most would get straight back on a plane to the UK.

But for Paul Stannard, managing director of Archant KOS Media, the publisher of this newspaper, it is all part of his Peruvian adventure which will see him and seven others trekking the famous Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas, to raise money for two of Kent's charities.

Mr Stannard, 46, has funded the trip himself so every penny raised will go to Dave Lee's Happy Holidays, a charity sending sick and deprived children on holiday, and Demelza House, a children's hospice in Sittingbourne providing end of life care.

Speaking ahead of his trip, Mr Stannard said 10 days of hardship was nothing compared to what these youngsters had to cope with.

"Whatever challenges I face can't be compared to what those poor kids are going through," he said.

"I wanted to do something big to get a lot of support for these charities.

"We've raised money for Kent children through the KOS Media Christmas appeal, but this year I wanted to do something bigger. I've seen what Dave Lee and Demelza do. I feel it's the least I can do to give something back."

The trip will see Mr Stannard swapping his suit and tie for a pair of khaki shorts to tackle the Inca Trail before being airlifted to the middle of the Amazon rainforest, where he will stay for four days.

"First of all we're flying into Spain – there are no direct flights to where we're going – then we fly to Lima in Peru and on to the Amazon jungle to a place called Cuzco, which is like a backpackers' paradise," he said.

"We go there for a day to acclimatise and then we join a group and climb the Inca Trail and see Machu Picchu."

OUCH!: Paul can expect to meet dangerous wildlife like anaconda on the way to Machu Picchu

While two of his group will then fly home, Mr Stannard and the braver members will stay on to be airlifted into the middle of the jungle.

"We'll spend four days living with the local wildlife, like anaconda and tarantulas, and travel by foot and in carved wooden canoes. There are piranhas and electric eels with 5,000 volts in the Amazon. We're doing this the real way – not the tourist way."

Jaguars, poison dart frogs and pythons are just some of the other species Mr Stannard and his group could come face-to-face with as well as tackling intense weather conditions, with temperatures dropping to below freezing at night and extreme heat during the day.

But Mr Stannard said he is looking forward to the challenge.

"I've been doing a lot of walking and cycling to prepare, although you can't do anything to prepare for altitude sickness."

Mr Stannard is aiming to raise £10,000.

To make a donation to Dave Lee's Happy Holidays go to www.justgiving.com/Paul-Stannard and for Demelza House go to www.justgiving.com/Paul-Stannard0.

People wishing to send in donations can make cheques payable to Dave Lee's Happy Holidays or Demelza House Children's Hospice and send them to Kerry Head at KOS Media Ltd, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS.

On his return, Mr Stannard will write a blog about his travels, with pictures and film clips available at www.kentnews.co.uk.

Special needs help

A PILOT scheme providing short breaks to disabled children and those with special needs is being rolled out countywide.

The Government-funded Aiming High for Disabled Children Short Breaks Transformation programme, which was trialled in Dartford and Maidstone, helps to increase quality of life for youngsters and their families.

A wide range of activities are on offer during October and February, 2011, half terms.

For information on activities in Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Shepway, Swale and Thanet call CASE Kent on 01843 588780 or 07786 618237; for Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley call Parents Consortium on 01322 668501; for Maidstone the Voluntary Action Maidstone (VAM) on 01622 677337; and Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Malling and Tunbridge Wells call Barnardos on 01892 528835.

Eurostar expands

HIGH-SPEED train operator Eurostar, has announced a £700 million investment in its fleet, and plans to travel to new European cities.

The investment programme will start next year and includes the complete overhaul and refurbishment of the existing fleet of Eurostar trains.

In addition, Eurostar will purchase 10 new trainsets to add to its existing fleet.

The new Eurostar e3202 trains will be be able to operate across the European high-speed rail network and could see journey times between London and Paris reduced to just over two hours, London to Amsterdam to under four hours, and London to Geneva to around five hours.

Eurostar hopes to encourage more travellers to choose high-speed rail over flights to the Continent.

• See Business Week for more on this story.

Sheps' beer getting 'a head' while competition goes flat

KENT brewer Shepherd Neame has defied a sluggish economy and gloom in the pub trade by posting a record £115.4 million turnover and best-ever volumes for its beer brands, ***writes Business Editor Steve Loader***.

The results for its financial year to the end of June also show pre-tax profits up by a quarter to £8.7m.

The profits surge was delivered partly by the benefits from a major re-shuffle of its pub estate the previous year; when many lower volume outlets were sold off in favour of bigger and better located outlets more suited to the Faversham-based firm's increasingly food-orientated business.

Momentum

This has also enabled the once north and east Kent orientated pub estate to be extended across the whole of the South East and even into London

In addition, new investment has allowed it to concentrate all bottling in-house and a new IT systems have helped a drive to cut production costs.

Chairman Miles Templeman said: "This has been a successful year for Shepherd Neame. We have achieved record turnover, record beer volume and strong net cash inflow against a background of a weak UK economy and challenges facing our industry. The pubs and brewery are well invested and the brand portfolio is well regarded and in growth.

"The business is highly cash generative, has robust long-term financing in place and has ample facilities to take advantage of future market opportunities."

Affectionately known as 'Sheps', the brewer's best performing brands were two of its own packaged and draught ales, Spitfire and Bishop's Finger, and the highly successful Japanese bottled and draught lager, Asahi Super Dry, which it brews under licence.

They contributed to a total increase in beer volumes of 4.8 per cent in the year to June and the company said momentum is continuing, with like-for-like sales up 3.5 per cent.

The buoyant report follows an upbeat preview given earlier this year by Sheps' managing director Jonathan Neame to our business editor Steve Loader, who will deliver an update from Mr Neame in next week's Business Week section.

In the meantime, Mr Neame's thoughts on the pub trade are available in an online video at our businessforkent.co.uk site.

THE INTERVIEW

BY JANE CONNOLLY

Much more than flavour of the month

DRIVEN by the desire for high-quality local produce, Ingrid Murray has taken internet shopping back to basics.

Although the mum-of-four from Tonbridge has always been keen to take advantage of online shopping, she found the quality of produce delivered by supermarkets was not always up to scratch.

So Murray, 43, launched her own business with the aim of putting fresh local food within the reach of other frustrated shoppers.

Last year she set up WeBuyNearby, an online fresh food market which enables people in Kent and Sussex to have locally produced meat, fish, vegetables and other goods delivered to their door.

Viewpoint

"There is lots of nice produce locally, but you can't get it easily if your normal habit is to go to the supermarket," she said.

"There are farmers' markets, but they tend to only run once a week and it's not practical if you've got a family."

By starting from the viewpoint of a customer who wanted better produce, Murray was able to identify the problem and address it.

"I was frustrated by the type of produce you get in supermarkets. If you look at a packet of chicken breasts, they all weight 500g because they are pumped with water or reared to machine standard," she said. "I was spending £150 on groceries every 10 days and I wanted good quality goods. I was thinking, 'How can I get local produce into the hands of other people like me, simply and easily?' That's why it's online. We deliver to you and you don't have to worry about going to the supermarket."

With a background in marketing and business strategy consulting, Murray understands the power of branding, but finds the vast choice of brands for the same product unnecessary.

She ran her own management consultancy for 10 years and was a founding member of the team behind insurance website Confused.com.

But now she wants to focus on providing families with the simple things in life – fresh, wholesome, attractive food.

"I think it's hugely important for children to have good food. It's just so easy to go to the supermarket and buy whatever they offer," she said. "We all go around partly with blinkers on and buy what we always buy, or whatever is on promotion. It's very rare to browse."

When approaching local suppliers to take part in the venture, Murray received a mostly positive response.

"Many suppliers have been fantastic and said they think supermarkets have too big a hold. Even standing at the farmers' market, they don't have access to the type of customer base I was trying to build."

Looking to the future, Murray's main aim is to make WeBuyNearby work for local people.

"I've had businesses before and I'm ambitious, but my ambition at the moment is to get it right for the customer. I want to build a brand that is true to what's in my head."

Visit the website www.webuynearby.co.uk to find out more.

INGRID MURRAY: 'My ambition at the moment is to get it right for the customer'

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Run in the family

YOUNG brothers Bradley and Tommy May will take part in a 5k charity race this weekend in memory of their late father.

The siblings lost dad Duane, 28, in April, just six days after he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. The boys, aged eight and 10, are taking part in Sunday's Mote Park run on behalf of the Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund.

They will be joined by friends, family and classmates from Molehill Copse Primary School, Maidstone.

Mother Vicky May said: "They wanted to do something to help find a cure so other children don't lose their dads to this cancer."

Visit www.justgiving.com/funky-monkeys to make a donation.

HOMES across Dover will be put on to water meters as part of a compulsory switch being conducted by Veolia Water.

The company says the move will lead to significant savings and help ensure a long-term sustainable supply. Only homes that cannot be metered for technical reasons will be exempt.

More than half of the homes in Dover are already on water meters and a further 6,500 will be installed over the next 14 months.

Murder case halt

A TRIAL involving a family of four charged with murdering a relative had to be adjourned at Maidstone Crown Court.

The jury was discharged on Wednesday for legal reasons, and a new panel sworn on Thursday. Bill Treeby, 50, his wife Charity, 51, and their sons Billy, 29, and George, 23, all deny murdering Jack Treeby, from Rainham.

Jack Treeby, 43, died after he was run over by a car. His brother, Gary Treeby, was shot before being beaten. The accused, from Queen Street, Paddock Wood, also face charges of the attempted murder of Gary Treeby, the attempted murder of Jack's son Jack Treeby Jnr, and conspiracy to kill another family member, John Treeby.

Hold firm when the pleas begin, urges veteran Tory

By **MARIJKE COX**
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A SENIOR Conservative politician has warned his colleagues not to give in to pressure groups pleading for Government to stop particular spending cuts.

North Thanet MP Roger Gale said if special pleas are made to Chancellor George Osborne by Conservatives and Liberal Democrats to spare certain funding streams the whole economic plan will fall apart.

The senior backbencher, who was party vice-chairman from 2001-03, said cuts needed to be made for the future of the country and his colleagues should not cherry-pick areas they believe should be spared.

Speaking from the Tory conference in Birmingham, Mr Gale said: "I know from experience – I've been in the House for 27 years – people will make special pleas to save certain things, but this can't happen now. It's easy to say something is a special case, but everything is a special case to someone.

"What Lib Dem and Tory colleagues should not do is succumb to pressure groups, organisations and charities. If the Chancellor is forced to give in to special pleas the entire economic plan will unravel. The Government has to take hard decisions. The coalition has been left with a scorched-earth economy.

"This is not easy and no-one wants to make cuts, but it has to happen."

BITE THE BULLET: Roger Gale MP

Mr Gale said the backlash from the announcement that child benefit would be removed from any family where one parent earns more than £44,000 was anticipated.

"No-one likes to hear that things are being taken away, but this is not until 2013 – we're talking about three years' time," he said.

Mr Gale said he understood complaints from people arguing that a household could have two people earning £40,000 and still get benefits, but he called it "rough justice" and said the majority would not be affected.

He added: "You get no brownie points for cuts, it won't win you votes. But this isn't about winning votes, this is about getting us back to where we want to be.

"We are going to feel severe cuts across the board – defence, education, even health in some form or another.

"We've got to get the economy right by biting the bullet. We have to promise it will be balanced out fairly. We can't cherry-pick."

Mr Gale, who is a senior member of the Speaker's Panel of Chairmen, chairing more than 100 pieces of legislation through committee since his appointment to the panel in 1997, said it might be harder for newer and less experienced MPs to say no to constituents fighting the cuts.

"They are under pressure to do things they set out to do before the elections and make a difference, but they will not be thanked in the long run by making special pleas that will affect economic recovery," he said.

"When Liam Byrne [former Chief Secretary to the Treasury] left a letter saying there was 'no money left' people laughed, but it was true."

Mr Gale said at a recent meeting about Equitable Life, where 1.5 million savers lost money, a former senior defence member said people who lost out should be given their cash back.

"What would happen if I then turn around and say OK, but we'll have to cut another regiment to cover it," said Mr Gale.

"David Cameron made it very clear that we don't wish to be where we are and don't want to do this. But he was straight-talking, his conference speech had no spin, and he said this is what has to happen."

Pie's the limit for blasted French

By MARIJKE COX
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PASSIONATE pie makers snubbed by Michelin-starred chefs in France are to launch an attack across the Channel with the world's first ever pie cannon.

The massive weapon, weighing 1.5 tonnes and measuring 30ft long, 12ft high and 8ft wide, will fire a selection of tasty pies across the 21km stretch of water in aerodynamic capsules, specially designed to make sure they reach their target.

Engineers are making last-minute adjustments to ensure the pies make it to Calais when shot from Deal Castle on Friday.

British comedy duo and pie enthusiasts Armstrong and Miller will launch the assault from the historic fortress at noon.

The planned attack by manufacturer McDougalls UpperCrust Pies follows a succession of knock-backs by leading chefs who refused to put pies on their menus in France.

Ed Hyslop, managing director of the company, said they were left with little choice but to force their wares on the neighbouring country.

PIE HIGH: Armstrong and Miller will launch the assault from Deal Castle

"Even though they are barely 30 miles away, the French are still pie-less and are being robbed of their chance to enjoy a great British pie," he said.

"We fully embrace Beaujolais Noveau so we thought the French would be more than happy to tantalise their palates with our pies. We are passionate about sharing one of our most loved foods with our French neighbours."

What was a pie in the sky idea soon became a reality when boffins from production company Elements SFX in London, Nick Rideout and Johnny Rafique, agreed to help, creating the giant pie weapon.

Mr Rideout said: "We had lots of wacky ideas about getting the pies to France – wakeboarding them across the Channel; a pie submarine; pie-gliding teams, but they lacked gusto and had too many things which could go wrong.

"Then the idea of a pie cannon popped up when we were brainstorming. We laughed at first but think there's something exciting here.

"The cannon is nearing completion and we're about to start work on some clever physics to assess how the pies will behave in and out of the cannon, which will be the best to use and how far we hope they will travel.

"The pie's the limit on this one for sure."

Even if the pies fail to reach the shores of France, a team from McDougalls will collect them from the sea and take them to Calais.

A spokeswoman from McDougalls said: "We are aiming for them to reach France. If they don't, we'll take them there ourselves."

Tom Bridge, former chef of The Savoy and author of Pie Society, said it was about time the French were put straight about pies.

"I think there's still quite a bit of food snobbery that goes on, but on this occasion it's time the French ate some humble pie," he said.

KOS Media contacted the Nord Pas de Calais council and the Calais tourist board for a reaction to being under attack, but were unable to get a response.

Competitive sport returns to schools

AN OLYMPIC-style competition will begin in Kent schools next year as part of the Government's promise to boost the number of children playing competitive sport.

Speaking at the Conservative conference in Birmingham last week, culture, media and sport secretary Jeremy Hunt said it would help create a lasting Olympic legacy.

Kent is one of nine areas to have been chosen to pilot the scheme which involves schools competing against each other in local leagues, with winning athletes and teams qualifying for area finals.

Mr Hunt said: "The success of this project will not be a Schools Olympics in 2012. It will be a Schools Olympics in 2013, 2014 and 2015.

"A lasting legacy, a lasting increase in the number of children playing competitive sport. Bringing competitive sport within reach of millions of children. Preparing them for a competitive world outside."

The first finals will be held in the new Olympic Park in the spring of 2012. The competition comes after the success of the Kent School Games which sees hundreds of youngsters take part in a range of sports.

Mr Hunt said: "Only a fifth of children play sport regularly against other schools and more than half don't play inter-school sport at all. Last year a school cancelled sports day because they were worried a child might fall over.

"Schools are more worried about being sued than being sporty. This has to stop."

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Survivor of Chillenden killings uses new Welsh home as inspiration for exhibition

Brave Josie turns to art as a way of rebuilding her life

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

MOVING ON: Josie Russell

JOSIE Russell, who survived a devastating hammer attack that left her mother and sister dead, has launched a career as an artist.

She has an exhibition of her work at a Welsh country house near the family's new base and is a regular at craft fairs. She has started selling online, too.

Josie, now 23, lost her mother Lin and sister Megan, in a horrific attack in the Kent countryside 14 years ago.

They were walking home in Chillenden in 1996 when a man attacked them. Josie, then nine, suffered massive injuries, but miraculously survived after months in hospital.

Together with her father, university lecturer Dr Shaun Russell, they moved away to Wales when Josie was well enough.

Michael Stone was convicted of the murders, but has constantly maintained his innocence. He has been told he will be in prison until 2031.

Drug addict, Stone, now 50, from Gillingham, has twice been convicted of the killings, and an appeal in 2004 failed.

Josie is now coming to terms with the tragedy, and turning to art has helped, she said. She completed a degree in graphic design at Bangor University and has been selling her pictures for up to £200, including landscapes of north Wales.

Fifteen of her best works have gone on display at Plas Newydd Country House and Gardens, a National Trust property in Anglesey. Still not happy with her notoriety, she used her website to express herself.

She said: "My deep-rooted passion for art and design began when I was very young, and carries on to the present day.

"Besides my love of design, I have many other hobbies and interests which directly influence both the way in which I work and the end result.

"I am a devoted animal-lover and care deeply for nature in all its forms. As an ambassador for the Born Free Foundation, I am only too proud to promote awareness of animal welfare wherever possible. This means you will never see me working with leather, fur or any other animal by-product.

"When I am not working on art and craft projects I can usually be found outdoors – be that in my garden or walking through the beautiful hills of the Snowdonia National Park. I feel a deep connection with the countryside, so perhaps it is no surprise that the unspoilt mountains, flora and fauna of North Wales form the present basis for most of my creative work."

Josie also reveals she is worried about the environment, adding: "I am concerned about current ecological issues, and strive to keep my environmental impact to a minimum."

There could also be a place for her on the fashion runways of the world.

Josie said: "On a smaller scale, and similar note, being avidly interested in fashion I find great pleasure in dressmaking, customising garments and making one-off accessories.

"People are quick to discard old items when they can be tweaked and altered to become something fresh and different."

Josie, who also works part-time in a supermarket, said: "It's very exciting and I've been quite surprised that I've already sold three pictures."

TALENT: Josie uses textiles in her work

Dr Russell told KOS Media: "I'm very proud to see Josie making headway with her artwork already, at a very early stage of her career.

"It is a testament to her love of art and craft, and of her local environment where she has grown up, that her textile landscapes particularly are proving popular.

"I'm pleased she has found this productive outlet for her talents, as she has always been constrained by her speech and language difficulties, and her difficulty with reading and writing because of her injuries.

"But her love of art has developed into something that is helping her earn a living.

"She has a part-time job at our local Tesco supermarket and spends the rest of her time stitching fabric images, including the textile landscapes and Snowdonia mountainscapes that are catching people's attention and starting to sell quite well – there have even been some orders from Kent.

"What has surprised and impressed me is how Josie has been able to put her past behind her, concentrate on the future, and come up with something quite individual and interesting in her art work.

"Good luck to her I say, and thanks to the many people who still show a kind and generous interest in Josie's well-being and progress."

MP's unfair fares

MARK Reckless, the MP for Rochester and Strood, is to discuss unfair rail fare increases with transport minister Theresa Villiers.

The move follows a meeting with Southeastern MD Charles Horton about the deal that allows the train company to raise fares by the July retail price index plus three per cent. In the rest of the country the rise is RPI plus one per cent.

Mr Reckless said: "I want the minister to hear how unhappy my constituents are at being singled us out for bigger increases."

Bear's flying visit

CHIEF Scout and adventurer Bear Grylls made a whirlwind tour by helicopter of two Kent Scouts gatherings last weekend.

First he visited the Scouts' activity site at Lower Grange farm, Maidstone, then flew to the County Showground at Detling, where he met more than 1,000 enthusiastic Cubs.

They were celebrating 95 years of Cub Scouting with activities to test their physical and mental ability.

RSPB has some good and bad news for county's nature lovers

Bee world's buzzing

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

IT'S BACK – the bumblebee is on the rise in Kent.

And the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said it is all down to the new Environmental Stewardship scheme that is working in Kent.

By encouraging the sowing of pollen and nectar plots, the numbers of bees along the coastal area around Romney Marsh are buzzing once more.

In all, five of Britain's seven species are making a comeback along the Dungeness coast thanks to the combined effort of local farmers, landowners and conservationists.

One of those five includes include one of the country's rarest bumblebees, the shrill carder bee.

Populations are doing so well, the shrill carder has been seen in areas where it has not been recorded for 25 years, including neighbouring Sussex.

New Zealand

About 50 farms in the area are part of a project launched in January last year being run by the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, Hymettus, Natural England, and the RSPB.

It helps restore the habitat of the short-haired bumblebee in advance of its re-introduction from New Zealand where a team is specially breeding them before they are brought back to Kent.

It's the second attempt, after the first batch suddenly died before transportation.

Dr Nikki Gammans, who leads the project, said: "We embarked on this project so that we could create the right conditions to bring the short-haired bumblebee back to the UK – but an added benefit is that it has provided a real boost to these five threatened species.

"Dungeness and Romney Marsh used to have more species of bumblebee than any other UK locality until the declines in the latter half of the 20th century.

"We hoped that we would begin to see results like this for these species, but we really didn't expect to see it quite so quickly. It's a great result and one we're very excited about.

"Bumblebees pollinate red clover which is grazed by cattle, as well as tomatoes, strawberries, peppers, peas and a range of other fruit and vegetable crops."

CREATING QUITE A STIR: Conservationists are excited by the return of the shrill carder bee which has not been seen in the county for 25 years

The New Zealand expedition will bring its queens back to Kent next year and release them at RSPB's Dungeness reserve, close to the spot where they were last recorded in 1988.

Dr Gammans added: "If we can reintroduce the short-haired bumblebee to this area to join these five species then that will be a real conservation success story.

"This corner of the country will once again have its full complement of native bumblebees which have suffered catastrophic declines in recent decades."

Corridors of suitable habitat linking farmland and nature reserves have been formed to allow bees to spread out. More than 800 hectares of habitat has been created by farmers through the project.

Larry Cooke from Moneypenny Farm, Romney Marsh, said: "Under my farm's agri-environment schemes I have recreated habitat for bumblebees including pollen and nectar strips and red clover hay meadows.

"Bumblebees are vital to the pollination of many of our agricultural crops and for long term farming sustainability."

Red shanked

The five species on the up are the large garden/ruderal bumblebee, known as Bombus ruderatus; the shrill carder bee or Bombus sylvarum; the red shanked carder bee also known as Bombus ruderarius; the moss carder bee or Bombus muscorum, and the brown banded carder bee or Bombus humilis.

Picture: ANDY HAY

THREAT: Lapwings are on risk list

...but many of our birds still at risk

SOME of Britain's most threatened birds are in dire need of more help.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said increasing numbers of species are at risk.

The charity's Safeguarding Species report identifies the top 100 species in the UK that are most in need of help – and many of them call Kent their home.

They are the bittern, corn bunting, cuckoo, Dartford warbler, house sparrow, kestrel, lapwing, lesser spotted woodpecker, nightjar, red kite, redshank, reed bunting, skylark, swift, tree pipit, turtle dove, willow tit, woodlark and yellow wagtail.

They are among those prioritised for immediate action by the RSPB and it is appealing for help from government, industry, other charities and the public to provide a future for these birds.

Steve Gilbert, conservation manager, said: "For 120 years the RSPB has been spearheading the protection of the UK's birds.

"We have done this by working with government, organisations and individuals. In hard times, we need to prioritise by working with those birds that most need the nation's help.

"We're calling on politicians, business leaders and the third sector to save these priority species for future generations to enjoy."

He said some will benefit from nature reserves, others from wildlife-friendly farming schemes and for many species, site protection measures are vital to protect their habitat.

Mr Gilbert said the birds are struggling because of changes in farming practice; a lack of woodland management; drainage of wetlands; habitat destruction; climate change; development; and a reduction in the number of insects in urban areas.

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Ex-detective fears Fritzl 'slavery' is common in the UK

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

HORRENDOUS acts of sexual abuse inflicted by the likes of Josef Fritzl may be being committed every day in the UK, warns a retired detective superintendent.

Fritzl was jailed for life last year after being found guilty of keeping his daughter locked in a dungeon beneath their Austrian home for 24 years, during which time he fathered seven children by her.

The case sent shockwaves throughout the world, but former Kent Police officer Cliff Grieve said similar cases of 'contemporary slavery' were going on all the time.

Mr Grieve, who retired in 1999, will be giving a talk on October 21 as part of Canterbury Christ Church University's ongoing public lecture series.

He said: "The Fritzl case and the imprisonment of Jaycee Lee Dugard (in California) horrified the world, but that sort of thing may be going on in our country today.

"I see my role as helping to raise the curtain on what's happening. I'm really hoping just to make people aware of this evil in our midst.

"We haven't eradicated slavery and we should all be asking significant questions of our MPs and chief constables about what's being done and what resources are being thrown at the problem."

Intelligence suggests there may be up to 4,000 women and children trafficked into the UK for sexual exploitation, but last March the country's only dedicated police unit to tackle the problem – at the Metropolitan Police – was disbanded.

There is also a UK Human Trafficking Centre, but this forms part of the Serious Organised Crime Agency (Soca) which may be facing the axe as part of the Government's planned quango cull.

Mr Grieve, whose former role at Kent Police involved him tackling the problem of people-smuggling, admits that at the time he "didn't have the faintest inkling" of the scale of the abuse going on behind closed doors.

He said: "People-smuggling is when illegal immigrants pay a price to be brought into the country and are then free to do as they please when they get here.

"People-trafficking is vastly different because it involves people being brought over on false promises of a job or education.

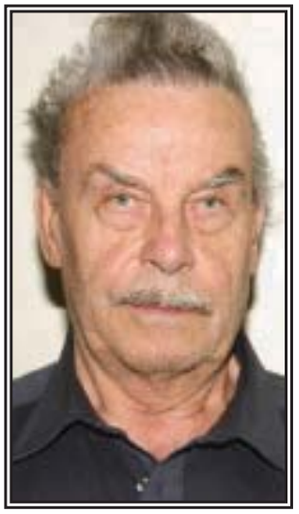
"It's for desperate people who will grab on with both hands for a better life, but some may be put in a room, gang-raped and forced to take drugs and may then be forced into prostitution.

"They're also likely to have their passports taken away so that they become entirely dependant on their aggressors.

"I started researching the issue because I felt a genuine sense of compassion for the victims.

"How can this sort of thing be going in our country today?"

Mr Grieve's talk will take place at the North Holmes Campus on Thursday, October 21. Visit www.canterbury.ac.uk/events for more information.



EVIL: Fritzl jailed for life last year

Recycling firm fined £225,000 for man's death

WASTE and recycling company Veolia ES (UK) Ltd has been fined £225,000 after a worker collecting litter from a busy road was killed when two vehicles collided.

The incident happened on March 2, 2007, in East Peckham, when Damian Griffiths, 20, an agency worker for Veolia, was litter-picking on a grass verge of the A228.

A colleague was driving a caged vehicle used to collect the litter.

A large goods lorry travelling in the same direction collided with the caged vehicle, shunting it into Mr Griffiths.

The LGV driver escaped serious injury, but Mr Griffiths died at the scene.

Veolia ES (UK) Ltd, of Pentonville Road, London, was found guilty of breaching the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, at Maidstone Crown Court, and was also ordered to pay costs of £95,239.

Health and Safety Executive inspector Caroline Penwill, said: "Veolia failed to ensure Mr Griffiths' work activity was safe and properly planned. As a result of its failure a man has died."

THE NEW licensees at the White Horse in Boughton, Paul and Tara Birks, had two special guests when wine critic Oz Clarke and comedian Hugh Dennis came to stay.

The TV duo stayed at the pub for two nights as they filmed in the area for their upcoming BBC programme Oz and Hugh Raise the Bar, in which they tour the UK discovering authentic locally-produced drinks, drinking traditions and customs.

During the visit, the pair created medieval cocktails in a field by the pub and sold perry at a local cider festival.

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End for garden inn

A BACK-GARDEN barman has pulled down his converted Swiss chalet pub.

Dean Goodearl, 23, built the boozer on his property in Pimpernel Way, Chatham.

The 8m x 6m garden pub was decked out with a John Smiths beer pump, connected to barrels outside, and a range of optics for spirits.

It also had a dartboard, pool table, plasma TV screen, fruit machine, disco ball and a smokers' bin out on the veranda.

The pub was divided from Mr Goodearl's terraced house by a boarded fence and people could gain access to it from its own gate and pathway.

Mr Goodearl was ordered to pull the pub down by Medway Council's enforcement team despite arguing that the chalet was only ever used by himself and his close family after they went banger racing.

Pet reptiles stolen

THIEVES have taken valuable reptiles from a pet shop in Beaver Road, Ashford.

The thieves selected higher value animals including 12 tortoises, a female chameleon and 10 bearded dragons worth a total of £1,540.

It is believed the offenders broke into the back of the premises and used a vehicle to transport the animals and property.

They also stole two Reptibreeze light boxes valued at £115 and caused £250 worth of damage to the premises.

The break-in happened on Sunday, October 3 at 9.30pm.

Tory relives glacier fall terror on cruise

Councillor tells of lucky escape as date is set for court case against tour company

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A SMALL metal grill may have saved a councillor and his wife from certain death when a "tsunami" of ice and water almost capsized their cruise ship.

Julian Benington, a Conservative councillor for Biggin Hill, told KOS Media of the moment he thought he and wife Valerie were going to be killed.

They were on board a ship called Alexey Maryshev when it was engulfed by a 70ft tall wall of ice and water.

It had been caused when a huge slab broke off a glacier and slammed into the water causing a massive wave to wash right over the ship, which is a converted Russian research vessel, said Cllr Benington.

Seven British tourists recovered in hospital after the incident during a tour of the Horn Glacier, near the Svalbard Islands, 310 miles north of Norway.

Some 72 passengers and crew were on board.

Now the Beningtons and 14 other Brits hurt in the bizarre accident on August 9, 2007, are set to have their day in court in a compensation battle with tour company Discover the World.

They claim the ship's captain took the ship much too close to the glacier to be safe.

It was sailing off the coast of Norway when the large chunk of ice gave way.

Three years on, and with the help of travel law experts at Irwin Mitchell, the passengers are determined to continue their fight for justice and a date for a full trial into the incident has been set for March 22 next year.

The violent listing of the ship meant several were seriously hurt and had to be airlifted to a local hospital. Others were patched up on the ship.

Cllr Benington said: "It looked like a scene from MASH on board the vessel."

Governor of Svalbard brought separate proceedings against Oceanwide, the company that owns the vessel. It was fined, and is now appealing the court ruling.

Cllr Benington, 69, a retired police officer from Orpington, who serves on Bromley council, said the ship got very close to the ice wall.

He said: "We came to within 10ft of it. My wife Valerie was walking a few feet in front of me. A huge section of the 100ft high glacier came down. If it had come down over the boat, God knows what would have happened. As it was, it fell vertically in the water.

"As it did so, this huge wave came up and swamped the boat with water and ice lumps, some of which were pretty big.

"The boat then keeled over dramatically, probably several times. We were three decks up, about 35ft above sea level.

"I hung on to a railing and then all hell let loose. I am hanging on and there is ice and water raining down on everybody.

"My wife was being washed down past me. Fortunately I managed to grab her and I am holding on to her, and bear in mind the boat is probably tilting at 45 degrees and probably more than that.

"Then a man who was in front of her came washing down too. I tried to grab him too, but it was so cold and I couldn't hold him.

CLOSE CALL: Cllr Julian Benington and wife Valerie pictured before the glacier collapsed

"He went right across the deck to the other side and hit the sturdy cleats and stanchions."

He said when the boat settled, they scrambled to their feet and were stunned at how many people were hurt. The pair had suffered cuts and bruises and deep shock.

He said: "I went to see the doctor and what was the dining area was like a scene out of the television series MASH.

"There was a guy there with an oxygen mask, there was blood and people with broken limbs. I helped one of the crew who had a broken arm and leg by cutting up pieces of wood for splints.

"We just should not have been that close to a glacier. We didn't know if the ship was going to tip over completely.

"It was also lucky no-one ended up in the water – they wouldn't have lasted more than a minute or so."

Clive Garner, from Irwin Mitchell, said: "This has been an extremely difficult time for our clients who were injured onboard the MV Alexey Maryshev liner.

"It is a positive step forward that a date has been set for the trial. Our clients are keen to see their cases concluded as soon as possible so they can then get on with rebuilding their lives."

24 years for murder over Facebook taunts

A CHEF who murdered his ex-wife after she taunted him on Facebook has been jailed for 24 years.

Adam Mann, of Springfield Road, Welling, killed 30-year-old Lisa Beverley on September 15, 2009, at her home in Plumstead.

Her five-year-old son found her body the day after the murder and called his grandparents to say his mother was dead.

Miss Beverley had been hit over the head with a hammer and stabbed in the throat. A post-mortem revealed she also had broken ribs and heavy bruising.

Investigating officer DCI Brian Mather said it was a dreadful and tragic case.

He said: "One cannot imagine how Lisa's young son must have felt finding his mother dead.

"The actions of Mann are indescribable, that he could murder the mother of his son and leave him to discover her body."

The Old Bailey heard how the couple divorced in 2007 and were involved in a dispute over child support payments.

Miss Beverley was trying to get Mann to contribute towards raising their son through the Child Support Agency (CSA)

The day before Mann killed her, she wrote on Facebook: "Now whose laughing? U've got done big time by the CS, so now leave us alone for good, your son hates u and so do I."

ATTACK: Adam Mann killed Lisa Beverley over her online remarks

On September 16, 2009, Mann was arrested, interviewed and bailed, but rearrested on September 21 and charged with murder the next day.

During the trial his defence was that he had agreed with Miss Beverley to commit a staged burglary at her address.

Mann, who worked in Dartford, said he arrived as planned and found her body, checking for a pulse.

He claimed in a state of confusion he decided to commit the burglary anyway.

Police found Miss Beverley and Mann had had a difficult marriage which had seen him be violent towards her.

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Psychic Joe just knows how to make you laugh

Nation's favourite adds mind reading to his show

By **MARIJKE COX**

HE STOLE the nation's hearts with his high-pitched antics on I'm a Celebrity Get me Out of Here.

And now TV funnyman Joe Pasquale is preparing to tap into people's minds with the launch of his Extra Sensory Pasquale tour.

His new show will see the 49-year-old Rochester resident demonstrating his new psychic powers – which he developed with help from Zen master The Emperor Wang, otherwise known as his school friend Kevin Bloss – with assistance from audiences in Kent.

Pasquale said the tour, which is coming to Chatham, Folkestone, Dartford and Tunbridge Wells, features "all sorts of craziness" and extra-sensory comedy.

"I've always been quite intrigued by that sort of thing and the way mind readers use it – but I just take the mick out of it and people love it," he said.

"My favourite bits of the show are always the bits with the audience. To be honest, it's not something I really believe in though.

"When I was in the Scouts, we used to go round collecting jumble and we'd sort through it for the good stuff before we handed it over. From one lot, I got a lava lamp and a Ouija board, and me and my mate Kevin and some others went into the church and contacted a ghost called Colin, but we don't know if it was real or just somebody pushing the board around."

Pasquale, who was crowned King of the Jungle in the fourth series of ITV's I'm a Celebrity in 2004, said he still loves performing since first hitting the comedy scene in the mid-1980s.

"As a performer, you get bolder as you get older," he said.

Wrestling

"You don't care what you do, as long as people think the show is good.

"I've never been one of the fashionable comics, so I've never gone out of fashion, and that's why I'm here after 25 years in showbusiness."

Despite performing in front of thousands of people throughout his career, Pasquale said the bravest thing he has ever done was jump out of a plane into the jungle.

"I suppose going out on stage in front of an audience is considered brave too, but I've got balls – if someone says go out and do half an hour, I'll do it.

"Some people think it was brave to give up my day job to become a comic, but I soon realised that I was not cut out for a 9-5 lifestyle.

"I wasn't the comic at school, but when I left, well, you re-invent yourself, so when I left college there was a whole new group of people who didn't know what I was like when I was at school, so you can be whatever you want to be."

After working on a meat market, Pasquale became a wrestling referee at a holiday camp.

"Because it was me, being who I am, the old girls used to wet themselves laughing as I'd play it for laughs and wear stockings and suspenders under my tracksuit.

"We'd set it up with the wrestlers that they'd pull my trousers down and it would bring the house down," he said.

The new show is for all the family.

For tickets visit www.medway.gov.uk/theatres for the Chatham show on Sunday, October 10; www.orchardtheatre.co.uk for Dartford, Monday, November 8; www.assemblyhallthreatre.co.uk for Tunbridge Wells, Sunday, October 17; and www.leascliffhall.co.uk for Folkestone, Friday, October 15.

Bless this harvest

BREWERS, hop farmers and barley growers gave thanks for another successful harvest, at Shepherd Neame's annual Hop Blessing service.

More than 80 guests attended a special service at St Mary the Virgin Church in Selling.

Flora Bishop, the youngest granddaughter the Faversham brewer's president Robert Neame, presented a basket of hops for blessing, before guests enjoyed a traditional hop-pickers' lunch at nearby Wellbrook Farm at Boughton-under-Blean.

Lawman's lecture

THE Solicitor General Edward Garnier will launch the University of Kent's autumn term open lecture series on Wednesday at 6pm.

Titled The Role of Law Officers in Government, the annual Kent Law Society Lecture will be given by the MP in Woolf Lecture Theatre on the university's Canterbury campus.

The lecture is free and open to all.

There is disabled access to Woolf College and the lecture theatre.

Barn owls plucked

THIEVES stole three young barn owl chicks were from a coop in Canterbury Road, Charing on Thursday, September 23.

The chicks are approximately 12 weeks old, and are worth an estimated total of £450. All three carried an identification ring on their legs.

One chick has since returned to the coop, but has been too agitated to be handled.

Police say selling and buying of barn owls is regulated by the Government. Unlicensed sale of the birds carries a £5,000 fine.

READERS of kentnews.co.uk aren't convinced they will see the new Labour leader as the country's prime minister in the near future. Of the 407 people who answered the question 'Will Ed Miliband lead Labour to victory at the next general election?', just 28 per cent said 'yes'.

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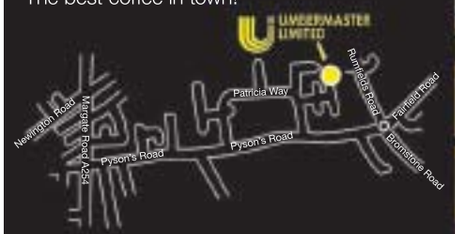

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Osborne interest puts Boris Island back on the agenda

INTERESTED: George Osborne

By MARIJKE COX

POLITICAL rivals have united again in their stance against Boris Island following claims that Chancellor George Osborne was "keen" to hear more about the controversial plans.

But while Tory MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey Gordon Henderson criticised London Mayor Boris Johnson's office for "peddling" the idea, former Labour MP for Gillingham and Rainham Paul Clark laid the blame at the coalition's door for putting the scheme "back on the agenda".

Mr Clark said David Cameron's words, where he admitted earlier this year that the Thames estuary airport was "not our (Tory) policy", were meaningless after a report in a national newspaper claimed Mr Osborne wanted to hear more about the plans.

Kent Tories have always openly opposed the scheme, despite Conservative Mayor Johnson's hopes for the £40 billion floating airport in the Thames estuary off the north Kent coast.

Slapstick

Mr Clark said: "In the run-up to the election David Cameron supposedly ruled out this option.

"We can now see that those words could well be hollow and meaningless if the Chancellor continues his interest in this scheme. By expressing such an interest he will give the scheme credence and puts it firmly back on the agenda."

Cllr Alan Jarrett, deputy leader of Conservative-run Medway Council, which is also opposed to the airport, urged the Chancellor to not give any more thought to the plans. He branded the scheme "unnecessary, unaffordable and unworkable".

"I would advise Mr Osborne not to waste too much time on this pie in the sky idea," said Cllr Jarrett.

"We should look at using up the full capacity of our existing regional airports rather than build something that would devastate the environment of north Kent and turn the county into a concrete jungle."

Mr Henderson, however, blamed the London Mayor's office for putting words in the mouth of senior politicians.

"Until I have heard something from George Osborne's own mouth I don't believe he's changed his stance on this," he said.

"I know Boris Johnson is peddling this idea as an election ploy. He's up for election and he wants to get as many votes as he can from west London where people would be very pleased if Heathrow was left alone and another airport built somewhere else.

"Until I've heard it from Mr Osborne myself I don't believe any speculation."

He added: "If he was to say yes to having a look at plans that is something I would expect from a responsible Government. He wouldn't want to dismiss looking at the report, but it doesn't mean to say that he agrees with it."

Mayor Johnson believes a Thames estuary airport is vital to take traffic away from Heathrow, which is under pressure from too many flights.

Former transport minister Mr Clark said: "Heathrow is the UK's international hub airport. It is already at 99 per cent capacity compared to its immediate competitors – Paris, Frankfurt and Schiphol at 75 per cent.

"This means Heathrow will start to see a reduction in flights and business as they transfer to alternative European hub airports and as costs rise both financially and environmentally as congestion accumulates."

He added: "The people of Kent will feel they have been misled when it now appears that the coalition government wants to 'hear more' of this potentially devastating scheme."

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Fundraiser with secret postcards

A SAVE the Children secret art postcard exhibition and sale is being held to raise funds for the organisation's work.

The exhibition, to be held in a dedicated room at Castle Arts in Castle Street, Canterbury, from October 16-30, will showcase work specially submitted by more than 200 artists, including many from Kent, as well as those from as far afield as Denmark.

All postcards are for sale at £25 each and will be exhibited anonymously. The identity of the artist of your purchased artwork will only be revealed at the close of the exhibition, when your postcard is despatched to you.

Programme sale ready to kick-off

A FOOTBALL memorabilia sale is expected to attract hundreds of fans to Dartford FC's ground next weekend.

The first Darford Programme Fair at Princes Park runs from 10am-2pm on Sunday, October 17, with some of the country's leading football memorabilia and programme sellers in attendance.

Directions to the ground can be found on www.dartfordfconline.com and you can find our more by emailing tracey_barnes@hotmail.co.uk.

Revered comic never forgot his Deal roots

COMEDY legend Sir Norman Wisdom who died on Monday, aged 95, had an upbringing in Kent, ***writes Nick Ames***.

The star had been in ill health following a series of strokes before his death at an Isle of Man nursing home.

But what few people knew was that the much-loved comic actor – who shot to stardom in the 1950s as down-trodden Norman Pitkin and who Charlie Chaplain claimed was his favourite clown – was brought up in a Deal.

Sir Norman was put in a children's home in the town in 1924, after his parents separated when he was aged nine.

He later ran away to work for tea company Liptons then moving on to the Merchant Navy and then the Army before settling on an acting career.

But the 5ft actor maintained his links with the town visiting the area to put on a show or visit friends. He was also also patron of the town's carnival association.

Herne comedian Dave Lee worked with Sir Norman in cabaret when they hosted an event for showbusiness charity the Water Rats.

"I think Norman should have been frozen while he was still alive and then wheeled out every so often to show today's comedians how it should be done. He was a national treasure – no doubt about that.

"Working with him was a joy; it was an event in London for all the Water Rats with OBEs and knighthoods. It was a couple of years ago but he'd lost none of his spark. He was funny, likeable and brilliant. His death is a sad loss."

Sir Norman retired in 1990, after a career that spanned six decades and won him global fame.

After seeing one of his early amateur performances while in the Army the actor Rex Harrison advised him: "If you don't become a professional comedian when you're back in civvy street, you're mad."

He took the advice and, in December, 1945, persuaded the manager of Collins Music Hall in Islington, north London, to give him break as a performer. He was billed as Norman Wisdom, The Successful Failure.

Over the next few years he developed his character, The Gump – an innocent, enthusiastic, but accident prone little man always anxious to help.

He said: "I began to play it up, laying on the pathos to see how far I could stretch it. I felt I had hit upon a unique image.'

His first film, Trouble In Store, was an instant hit in 1953. In later titles in the role of Norman Pitkin like The Early Bird, The Square Peg and A Stitch In Time, he worked for his boss Mr Grimsdale, sparking the catchphrase "Ooo, Mr Grimsdale!".

Sir Norman once said: "My comedy is for children from three to 93."

Slapstick

In 2007, he came out of film retirement doing a comic turn as a vicar being plagued by a fly in Expresso. He also appeared in Coronation Street and Last of the Summer Wine.

A dedicated charity worker, he was knighted in 2000.

Bizarrely, he was a star in Albania where audiences loved his slapstick routines and the Albanian government viewed him as a little man fighting capitalist bosses.

A recent trip to the country happened to with a visit by the England football team. Sir Norman visited the stadium where England were due to play Albania and found himself applauded more than David Beckham, who was training at the pitch at the same time.

Betty Hubbard was manager of the Ramsgate branch of Parkinson Staff Bureau – now known as HR GO – in the 1960s who dealt with Sir Norman when he wanted to recruit staff.

Jack Parkinson, HR GO chairman, said: "As I am sure we can all imagine, he was a very different to the usual clients on their books, but it was a very easy job to find candidates interested in becoming his personal assistant," he said.

"He was extremely friendly and courteous to all of the branch team and always had a joke with them. He even had Betty modelling his trademark tweed cap, of course askew and peak turned up."

A SAD LOSS: Sir Norman Wisdom

Teens arrested as pupils strike over lunch break rotas

POLICE were called to a Dover school after hundreds of pupils went on strike and walked out of classrooms in a protest over changes to their timetable.

Between 250-300 children at the Dover Christ Church Academy staged a walk-out during lessons on Monday morning after changes to the timetable were handed to them.

Two teenagers were arrested at the scene on suspicion of causing criminal damage and public-order offences. They had previously been temporarily suspended from the academy.

Four cars belonging to teachers suffered damage.

A man standing outside the school was also arrested on suspicion of a public-order offence.

The pupils had streamed out of lessons to protest against timetable changes, which saw their lunch hours staggered to fit new class rotas.

The pupils congregated in the playground, where they started chanting demands for the lunch rota to be changed back.

A Kent Police spokeswoman said: "Police were called to the Dover Christ Church Academy after pupils mounted a protest following changes to lunch arrangements.

"No-one was injured. However, the school gate was damaged and three or four cars belonging to staff were damaged."

Headteacher Richard Williams said the incident was "unfortunate for all concerned".

He said: "While we accept some students might not support split lunch hours, it is a widely adopted practice in schools across the UK."

The following day the school held a morning-long assembly with some of the students involved standing up and apologising for their actions.

STRIKE: Pupils left classrooms

Memorabilia signed by 'The Few' must be won

UNIQUE items of Battle of Britain memorabilia signed by members of 'The Few' are among prizes being raffled to raise money for a new project at Capel-le-Ferne.

Exclusive Breitling Aerospace watches featuring the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight are also on offer in the competition being run by the charity that looks after the memorial to the veterans of the 1940 aerial conflict.

The raffle is to support the Battle of Britain Memorial Trust's efforts to raise funds for a learning centre at the memorial site at Capel-le-Ferne.

This year's 70th anniversary has focused the attention on the bravery of the men of the RAF who flew sortie after sortie above the county to stave off the Luftwaffe attacks that threatened the freedom of our nation.

The Trust wants to use that renewed interest in Winston Churchill's 'Few' to promote its appeal for £650,000 to build a high-tech education centre that will keep alive their memories when they themselves are no longer with us.

It will use a hands-on approach and use video and other effects to bring the story to life. The Trust is hoping to include a restored dispersal hut as the focus of the centre, which will join the replica Spitfire and Hurricane fighters, the central statue and the memorial wall to create another attraction at the Capel-le-Ferne site.

To support the appeal, just visit the Trust website at www.battleofbritainmemorial.org to download a ticket, print if off, fill it in and return it to the address below.

Tickets cost £10 each and there is a limit of five per household. Entrants must be aged 16 or over. Closing date for postal applications is October 18 and the draw will be made on October 21 at a fund-raising dinner.

HERO: Battle of Britain veteran Bob Foster

RAFFLE PRIZES

FIRST PRIZE: Three limited edition Breitling Aerospace watches with images of a Spitfire, Hurricane and Lancaster to mark the 50th anniversary of the Battle or Britain Memorial Flight.

SECOND PRIZE: A facsimile of the original Spitfire sales brochure signed by 28 of The Few.

THIRD PRIZE: A Battle of Britain Memorial Trust Pilot teddy bear wearing a silk scarf signed by 18 of The Few.

FOURTH PRIZE: A framed limited edition print, Gentlemen, As You Were, depicting Lord Dowding talking to Battle of Britain pilots, painted by Gil Cohen and signed by 22 of The Few and the artist.

FIFTH PRIZE: A 70th anniversary edition of the book Battle of Britain Experience by Richard Overy signed by 19 of the Few.

Return your completed ticket to The Battle of Britain Memorial Trust, End of the Battle Grand Draw, PO Box 337, West Malling ME6 9AA.

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How port fought off the Nazis

Book uncovers secrets of the town's defences during World War Two

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

SECRET documents outlining defence plans which never saw the light of day are included in a new book about Dover during World War Two.

The town was a prime target for German troops throughout the conflict due to its position as Kent's gateway to the rest of Europe, with shells fired from across the Channel almost a daily occurrence.

However, as detailed in a new book by local historians Terry Sutton and Derek Leach, the authorities at the time devised a series of plans to counter the threat of invasion, including provision to demolish scores of homes on the seafront to give the British military more space to fire back.

Mr Sutton was just 10 when the war broke out and was evacuated to South Wales with his school in 1940.

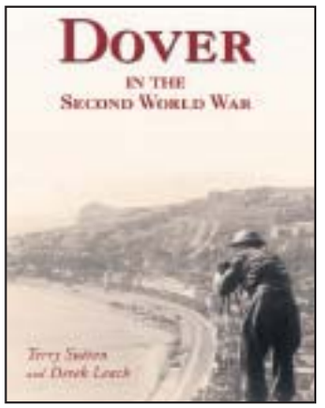
"I used to love coming home – that's all we wanted to do," he said. "But every time we came back there would be more wrecks and buildings demolished.

"The thing Dover suffered from the most was that you never knew when a shell might come hurtling at you from across the Channel. Women would be out shopping when there would be a huge explosion and a house would disappear.

"Canterbury suffered a blitz that wrecked the whole area, but Dover received smaller attacks on an almost constant basis.

"The Germans would also drop landmines on the town and more than 1,000 incendiary bombs were also sent over."

Mr Sutton's book describes how a scheme was developed to evacuate thousands from the depleted population in trainloads of 800 at a time, with those who remained being herded into deep shelters in the cliffs and chalk hills so the defending troops could pour firepower down into the centre of the town.



TOWN UNDER SIEGE: Book tells how Dover bore brunt of German attack

Secret documents recently released by the Government play an important role in the publication, as does a wartime diary kept by Mr Sutton's journalist father.

The book also features memories of the war from a host of survivors who lived in Dover at the time, including some who have since died.

Mr Sutton said: "The population of Dover was about 44,000 at one stage but that gradually dwindled to about 12,000 as children were evacuated and other residents moved to safer ground.

"Gradually it rebuilt to about 34,000 but because much of the industry was wiped out in the war it's now gone back down to about 30,000."

Dover in the Second World War is available now through Phillimore, priced £18.99.

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Car share trips to battle congestion

A NEW travel service has been launched to tackle road congestion caused by the introduction of the high-speed rail link, ***writes Marijke Cox.***

Kentjourneyshare.com, devised by train company Southeastern and backed by Kent County Council, is a free online programme which links up drivers, passengers, walkers, cyclists and taxi users to encourage those making similar journeys to and from stations to share travel.

Train bosses said commuters can save money on parking and fuel while helping to cut emissions caused by the build up of traffic around major urban stations, such as Ebbsfleet and Ashford International.

Cllr Nick Chard, KCC cabinet member for environment, highways and waste, said although the authority welcomed the introduction of High Speed One (HS1), the potential congestion impact was something that had to be tackled.

Figures released by the Department for Energy and Climate Change last month exposed Kent as the UK's worst offender for carbon dioxide emissions, with one of the main contributors, aside from industry, being road transport.

Cllr Chard said: "As a highway authority, KCC has to be mindful of the potential congestion impact of driving to major urban stations to access the services.

"Car-sharing is a great way to reduce congestion and also helps people to save on their own fuel bills. I welcome this partnership with Southeastern as another opportunity to improve people's door to door journey choices."

The dedicated service will help people contact others doing similar journeys to Kent's stations each day, instantly and securely.

As well as saving money on parking and petrol, the time it takes to park and the hassle of parking is expected to be reduced.

A Southeastern spokesman said: "Encouraging passengers to share their journeys to stations makes sense. It also helps save the individuals money and also has environmental benefits.

"We are committed to work with our partners to provide a joined-up national transport system, whether that be buses at the station or schemes such as this.

"We hope our passengers will be able to take advantage of it."

The launch of the scheme coincided with the first-ever national Liftshare Week, which ran from October 4-8.

It aimed to encourage more people to car-share to help meet the country's Co2 reduction targets.

Liftshare founder Ali Clabburn said there had been a huge interest in the scheme.

"Twitter is full of people telling their followers about it, while in one day alone the liftshare network has seen well over 600 new invitations sent by members wanting to car-share with other members going their way," she said.

• ***For further information about the new Kent journey scheme visit www.southeasternrailway.co.uk or www.kentcarshare.liftshare.com.***

Touch of glass at cathedral display

THERE is a rare opportunity to get up close to 800-year-old panels of stained glass at Canterbury Cathedral.

Because of repair work being carried to the great South window at the cathedral, the panels that have been in the window since the 18th century have been removed.

Four will now be displayed in light boxes in the western crypt of the cathedral, so visitors can get close to these windows and see the magnificent detail.

These windows depict four ancestors of Christ: Methusaleh, Lamech, Josiah, and Hezekiah.

Lambs nabbed

TEN lambs have been stolen from a field off Hampton Lane in Brook.

The white cross Suffolk Charollais animals are six months old and estimated to be worth £650.

The sheep were taken sometime between the August 9 and September 27.

Investigating officers would like to speak to anyone who may have seen suspicious people or vehicles in the area in the time leading up to and on the day of the theft.

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Brawling brother drove into crowd

A DRIVER who mowed down three party-goers after a nightclub brawl on the Isle of Sheppey has been jailed for four years.

JAIL: Jamie Rothery

Jamie Rothery, 25, of Lewisham, was sentenced at Maidstone Crown Court, after admitting wounding with intent and two counts of causing actual bodily harm.

Jamie Ewell, 29, of Musgrave Road, Sittingbourne, and his brother Shaun Ewell, 27, of Canterbury Road, Sittingbourne, were each sentenced to six months in prison after being convicted of affray.

Rothery's brother, Perry, was found not guilty of affray at an earlier hearing. The court heard the Ewell brothers were attending a family get-together at Merlins in Leysdown, on Friday, April 17, 2009, to mark a recent bereavement, when the clash happened.

Weapons

The Rotherys started playing pool with the Ewells but the game ended in a fight and cues were used as weapons by both sides.

The men were thrown out of the venue, where the fight continued. The Rothery brothers got into their car and, without turning on the headlights, drove a short distance away.

Jamie Rothery, who was driving, then turned back and drove the car into the middle of a group outside Merlins, injuring three people.

Sam Postacioglu was knocked to the ground and his skull fractured; Alice Enright suffered a fractured left hand and bruising to the legs; and Jason Upton was left with cuts and bruises to his face and body.

Sentencing, Judge Jeremy Carey told the three men they had no-one to blame but themselves and if they had gone their separate ways after the initial fight they wouldn't now be starting prison sentences.

Hi-tech health pilot project could save £7m

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

MILLIONS of pounds of taxpayers' money could be saved every year by handing more control of healthcare to patients, a report has found.

Findings from a two-year pilot study run by Kent County Council and two of the county's health trusts showed more than £7 million could be saved annually if Telehealth technology was installed in the homes of every eligible patient.

This includes people with diabetes, heart disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease – one of the biggest killers in the UK.

The technology was piloted in 250 homes in West Kent, and Eastern and Coastal Kent between 2005 and 2007.

It allowed patients to record vital information, such as blood pressure or sugar levels, from home, which was then sent directly to a nurse or GP to monitor.

Patients said it gave them more independence and cut the number of trips to the hospital or doctor. It is now being rolled out as part of Kent's regular healthcare programme.

Oliver Mills, KCC's managing director for adult social services, said the financial implications were huge.

"The evidence we have in Kent is that this has massive implications across the whole of the UK," he said. "I hope very much people will take this up because this is the best way of supporting people with long-term conditions to live independently and at the same time it is the best use of public money."

Cllr Graham Gibbens, cabinet member for adult social services, said giving people the resources to manage their own conditions takes pressure off medical staff and patients.

"That means peace of mind, better quality of life for the Telehealth user, which in turn eases the burden on their carer or family," he said. "We must never underestimate the challenges we are going to face providing services for increasing numbers of the elderly and people with long-term conditions. Telehealth helps us meet those challenges in a cost-effective and well-managed way."

Dartford GP Dr David Lawrence, who saw first hand the benefits of the scheme, said it was "striking" how much it helped the patients using it. He said it allowed them to understand their own illness.

Confidence

"The professionals can also see what's going on and it can focus what you do on the people who need it most at that time," he said. "They do suddenly feel less alone with their condition and, from the doctors' point of view, they know much more about what's going on and that becomes mutually confidence building."

The Telehealth report showed how thousands of people across the UK could have their lives changed by being given more control of their health, with massive benefits to the taxpayer. It would also come at a crucial time, with KCC needing to make £200m of savings over the next three years.

Dr Robert Stewart, medical director and director of clinical commissioning at NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent, believes there is even more that can be done with Telehealth.

"I think we could expand it to measure other parameters as well, so even specialised conditions that would normally require you to be in specialist units could be monitored, allowing people to be cared for in their own home," he said.

"There would be no reason why, through Telehealth, results couldn't be fed back much more often to those specialists.

"This would mean they had real-time information, allowing a proactive approach based on understanding what a person's need is now, not when they happen to come to an out-patient appointment in three months' time."

People taking part in the pilot said it had enormous benefits, giving them more control. One patient, Haris Patel, said it had changed his life.

"By catching something wrong with your health earlier they can actually do something about it instead of waiting three or four months for a consultant to see you, in which time you could have deteriorated or ended up as a hospital inpatient," he said.

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Cathedral city heads the digital revolution

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

CANTERBURY is not only home to some of Britain's most historic buildings, it is also the country's most digital city.

A survey of Britain's tech hubs also placed Rochester firmly in the top 10, at number three just behind London.

Researchers and web analysts Experian Hitwise said residents in the historic city of Canterbury visit more websites than anyone else in the UK. London was second.

The figures were the result of intense examination of web traffic over a 12-week period between July and September.

They looked at 1.4 million websites visited on the internet and then filtered those by postcode area.

From there, an index score ranked the percentage of visits to websites per head of population in a given area.

Canterbury came out as the clear winner with an index score of 188.94, meaning 1.44 per cent of all UK internet visits came from the city's postal area.

London had an index score of 124.72, and then Rochester with 114.95. Also in the top 10 was Bromley. Bottom was Sunderland.

Canterbury residents were most likely to use the web for entertainment, social networking, searches and shopping.

They were also some of the biggest consumers of video and online gaming, favouring, among others, MMO Champion, Gamestation and World of Warcraft Wiki.

DIGITAL CITY: Canterbury is leading the way

Tim Deeson, director of publisher Deeson Group, recently moved his company to the city and said he understands why Canterbury has gone so digital.

He said: "This is a great location for us as a technology firm working with both London and international clients."

He praised the two universities for producing excellent academics in the IT industry.

Mr Deeson said: "Advances in collaborative communications technology like video conferencing, web based project management, and VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) has made clients increasingly open to working with the best supplier of digital services.

"Canterbury is well served with access to the latest communications technologies, encouraging both businesses and the huge student population to take advantage of commercial and entertainment opportunities."

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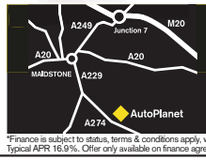

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Throwing off government shackles

MP leads call for devolved decision making

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

CIVIC society leaders have called for more power to influence local housing and planning decisions in Kent's towns and villages.

The coalition's forthcoming Decentralisation and Localism Bill aims to give district and borough councils more of a say in the issues affecting their communities, but the Kent Federation of Amenity Services (KFAS) says it needs to go much further.

Civic societies exist to champion the areas which they represent and to improve the quality of life of the people living there.

But although regularly consulted on certain planning issues, they have little real power in deciding the final outcomes.

Important

The president of KFAS is the Conservative MP for Thanet South, Laura Sandys.

She said: "This is an important moment for civic societies to be at the heart of the new localism agenda, and they should be instrumental in the development of planning being developed by neighbourhoods around Kent – not central government.

"Civic societies can and should be at the forefront of changing the system of unsustainable central targets to community led, locally driven decisions about the sort of environment we all want to live in.

"I believe the coalition wants strong commitment and buy-in from the communities, and that will be possible if power is liberated and the right mechanism is put in place to ensure local communities have their say.

"For too long there has been 'consultation' that has amounted to very little.

"We now need self-determination which is much more powerful but will need the leadership of organisations like civic societies to make that difference."

The Localism Bill was announced in the Queen's Speech in May and is due to come before Parliament later this autumn.

As well as plans to devolve local planning decisions, it also makes law the proposal to scrap regional spatial strategies like the South East Plan and to create Local Enterprise Partnerships in place of Regional Development Agencies.

KFAS is currently co-ordinating a Kent-wide response to the proposed legislation and will be putting its views forward to the Government in the next few weeks.

Chairman John Walker said it was important decisions were made to reflect the diversity of the various localities in the county.

He added: "In east Kent there needs to be a focus on renovating existing housing and adapting homes for local people, while in other parts of west Kent there is a need for more affordable housing.

"We must recognise that local people really do know best, and sometimes that has to be even more locally defined than by local district planning authorities."

Health trust up for top awards

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent is up for a hat trick of gongs at the national NHS Health and Social Care Awards.

Three primary care trust teams are among those singled out for their work in delivering some of the best health services in the South East.

Commissioners have been praised for their efforts in improving survival rates for stroke victims; bringing nursing teams into GP practices to ensure care is closer to home for patients; and working in partnership with the local prisons to improve safety for prisoners.

Chief executive Ann Sutton said: "It's a great tribute to all the work carried out by our staff that three of our teams have been recognised as delivering some of the best health and social care services in the region and, depending on the results, possibly some of the best services in the country."

The winners will be announced at an awards ceremony at Brighton Dome on Thursday, October 7.

Deadline day for free trees

TIME is running out to claim free trees from Kent County Council.

The closing date for applications to the Kent Frees Trees scheme is October 31, and you can claim up to 25 young tree 'whips' for use in gardens, schools, village greens, allotments or local open spaces.

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Anti-paedophile checks will destroy Cameron's vision for a 'big society'

A VETTING scheme forcing millions of parents to undergo anti-paedophile checks will destroy Britain's 'big society' unless it is scrapped, says a leading academic, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Frank Furedi, professor of sociology at the University of Kent and author of Licence to Hug, a report condemning over-the-top child protection policies, is calling for the controversial Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS), which is undergoing a rethink, to be shut down altogether and a radical new approach taken.

In his updated version of Licence to Hug he claims the draconian system, which looked to have everyone working or in close contact with children vetted, could decimate the David Cameron's 'big society' vision.

Assumptions

"The dramatic escalation of child protection measures, such as the VBS, has created an atmosphere of suspicion that actually increases the risks to children and damages relations between the generations," he said.

Home Secretary Teresa May vowed to fundamentally change the unpopular vetting scheme, but she stopped short at abolishing it entirely stating vulnerable groups and children must be properly protected.

The VBS was brought in under the Labour government last year, but it came under fire when it emerged parents taking their youngsters to sports clubs or Scouts groups would have to be vetted and checked for criminal records.

Nine million adults were due to undergo checks by the new Independent Safeguarding Authority in July, but the coalition said it would instead look to remodel the scheme.

Prof Furedi, who recently gave evidence at a Parliamentary education committee review into child protection issues, said the new approach needed to recognise that healthy interaction between generations enriched children's lives.

In Licence to Hug he stated society should be encouraged to operate from the assumption that the majority of adults have no predatory attitudes towards children.

Using case studies in their report, Prof Furedi and co-author Jennie Bristow showed the VBS had created an "atmosphere of suspicion" that could damage relations between generations.

The authors said: "Perhaps one of the worst aspects is that it doesn't guarantee a child will be safe with a particular adult – instead, it merely provides information confirming the adult in question has not been convicted of an offence in the past."

In the 2008 edition of their report they revealed the scheme, introduced in 2009, would see a quarter of the population's personal lives scrutinised; interference in sensible arrangements between parents such as picking up children from after-school clubs; and mistrust between the generations.

Ms Bristow, author of Standing up to Supernanny, added: "The vetting scheme creates unpleasant and unnecessary barriers between parents and other adults in their communities. Parents and voluntary groups need the freedom to make their own decisions about who they can trust."

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The Pride of Britain Awards will take place on Monday, November 8, where the top three shortlisted winners will have the opportunity to see their designs brought to life especially for the event.

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The deadline for entries is Friday, October 22, 2010.

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'A moral duty to help flood victims'

A PAKISTANI doctor has urged people not to forget the ongoing suffering of flood victims after he witnessed the shocking aftermath during an aid trip, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Dr Matin Sheriff, a surgeon at Medway Maritime Hospital, went to stricken areas of Pakistan where more than 2,000 people died and millions were left homeless after severe flooding eight weeks ago. The 48-year-old, originally from Azad Kashmir in Pakistan, said he was shocked by what he saw.

"Seeing pictures on television is one thing, but looking into the eyes of the sufferers is another. It is mind-blowing," he said.

"I'm a surgeon and I wanted to go out there, but it's not operations people need. They need clean water, basic essentials and antibiotics. It's a mixed picture. Some people have been rehoused with family or friends, others are in tents.

"There are reports of people suffering from malnutrition. There are also water-borne diseases and infections. People are suffering from dysentery and typhoid."

Dr Sheriff, who has worked in Medway for 10 years, took a donation of £20,000 and helped with the relief efforts by giving out tents and food and assisting in setting up shops, and renovating a school and hospital.

"There is only so much you can physically do yourself. The damage is colossal. There has been a breakdown of infrastructure," he said.

"It's been eight weeks and much of it is still under water. The Armed Forces are working hard and the NGOs [non-government organisations] are doing fantastic work. It's our moral duty to do what we can for the weak and vulnerable."

Dr Sheriff said he visited Pakistan so he could see the devastation for himself, but also to make people in Britain aware that this was a long-term problem.

"The media is beginning to die down on this yet it will take five to 10 years before things are sorted out over there," he said.

"We collected £20,000 from family and friends and took the money to see how we could use it properly."

Dr Sheriff, who led a relief project providing medical assistance after the Pakistan earthquake in 2005, said he was concerned about where the millions in donations given by the international community had gone.

"There's a lot of corruption," he said. "The Pakistan government is using a lot of rhetoric, but there's very little action."

Since the flooding, after heavy monsoons in July, £70 million has been raised through British donations.

The Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) flood appeal alone reached £60m on Tuesday. Brendan Gormley, DEC chief executive, said the UK response had been "extraordinary".

Dr Sheriff said people should be proud of what Britain had done. He urged people not to forget the suffering and continue to help raise funds, but warned donors to be careful which charities they give to.

"I would say to those wanting to donate to be careful how they give money," he said. "Use reputable organisations so you know the money is going to be used properly."

SHOCKED: Dr Matin Sheriff has urged Britons to keep up their relief efforts after the disastrous floods in Pakistan

ORIGINAL: Sir Reginald Blomfield's bridge over the Stour

Kipling Day bridges gap

A BRIDGE that author Rudyard Kipling visited has been rebuilt and reopened after 100 years.

Junior King's School at Canterbury has seen the footbridge given a new lease of life.

Kipling, who penned Britain's favourite poem If – , opened the King's Junior School at Milner Court, Sturry, on October 5, 1929.

SCHOOL VISIT: Rudyard Kipling

The poem may have been based in part on Lord Milner, whom Kipling visited in South Africa and at his house in Kent.

Kipling knew the gardens and attractive bridge over the River Stour, designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield in 1907.

However, on 'Kipling Day' 103 years later, the Junior King's School has replaced Blomfield's bridge with an exact replica.

It was dedicated at a ceremony by the Dean of Canterbury, Dr Robert Willis, before the Junior King's choir sang.

Elizabeth Keskar of the Kipling Society recited Kipling's poem, The Way Through the Woods.

And finally, pupils processed over the new bridge to their 'secret garden' on Forest Park Island in the Stour.

Soldier's death a grim reminder of the dangers, but Army's crucial work goes on

Tributes to Gurkha killed by Afghan suicide blast

A GURKHA soldier has been killed while on duty in Afghanistan's Helmand province.

Rifleman Suraj Gurung, 22, was killed during a follow-up foot patrol in south Nahr-e Saraj on Sunday, October 2, after an attack on his patrol base.

He was caught in an explosion when a suicide bomber detonated himself at the front of his platoon. Folkestone-based Rifleman Gurung was born and raised in the hill town of Gorkha in Nepal and had served in the British Army since December, 2007, becoming the first member of his family to do so.

In early January, 2008, he trained as a rifleman at Catterick in North Yorkshire before beginning his Gurkha infantry training.

In October, 2008, he was posted to Brunei to join the 1st Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles, who divided their time between south east Asia and Shorncliffe Barracks in Folkestone.

Rifleman Gurung returned to the UK in August, 2009, and was selected as the lead man in his patrol, known as the 'vallon man', for the upcoming tour to Afghanistan.

He was sent to Afghanistan in April this year, and led his patrol for six months, finding IEDs and choosing safe routes.

By **JAMES ALEXANDRE**
james.alexandre@kosmedia.co.uk

He was only recently married and leaves behind wife Permila and family in Nepal.

Rifleman Gurung's family said in a statement: "He was a very caring son and loving husband. He followed his forefathers' footsteps, as both his grandfather and father served with the British in India – and his father-in-law served in the British Army.

"He loved the Army and was very proud to be a Gurkha – and died doing a job he loved. His family are very proud of him."

Courage

Lieutenant Colonel Gerald Strickland, commanding officer of the 1st Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles, said of Rifleman Gurung: "Throughout this tour, he led the way through areas of high improvised explosive device risk with fortitude and courage.

"Never once did he complain or shy away from his duty, despite the fact that his team had suffered a partial detonation of one device and found several others during their time in Afghanistan.

"This was his first operational tour. It is telling that when we trawled the battalion for photographs of Suraj, the ones that came forward showed him with his arms around groups of grinning local children.

"He had a good heart and was here to help the Afghan people."

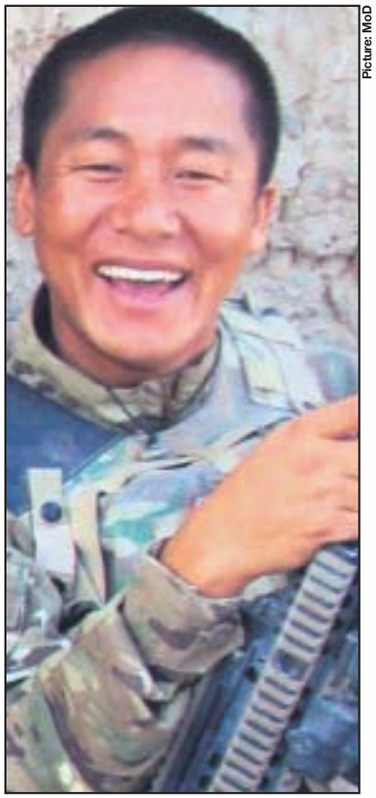
His close friends Rifleman Asham Thapa and Rifleman Santosh Gurung said: "Suraj was frank and friendly to all of us – he never hesitated to talk to his senior gurujis [spiritual teacher] and was always a very honest and hard-working person.

"He was a brave soldier, always wanting to lead from the front, and loved the responsibility of being the vallon man, the job he was doing when he died.

"He would always help and mentor those junior to him and provide advice to his commanders. He was a very good shot, competing at Bisley in the annual shooting competition for the battalion. He could often be found messaging his wife on the internet, picking up the nickname Netboy."

Defence Secretary Dr Liam Fox said: "I was extremely saddened to hear about the death of Rifleman Suraj Gurung.

"He was a brave and highly respected soldier who showed a lot of promise and led by example. My thoughts and sympathies are with his family, friends and former colleagues at this difficult time."



Picture: MoD

BRAVERY: Rifleman Suraj Gurung

UNITED FRONT: General Petraeus with Lieut Col Strickland

Top brass praise for battalion

GURKHA soldiers stationed in Afghanistan have received a top brass visit praising them for their dangerous frontline work.

American General David Petraeus, commander of all international troops serving in Afghanistan, visited the 1st Battalion the Royal Gurkha Rifles in southern Helmand. He was given in-depth briefings of the men's latest successes in the Nahr-e Saraj area, where they are charged with protecting the local population.

Gen Petraeus, with Task Force Helmand commander Brigadier Richard Felton, discussed the approach developed by the battle group that has focused on understanding the population and the insurgents' role in the community.

Lieutenant Colonel Gerald Strickland, commanding officer of the Gurkhas, said: "We had the opportunity to explain the approach we have been taking to defeat the insurgency in our corner of Helmand.

"It was good to get the sense that we are delivering exactly what it is that Gen Petraeus is after in terms of fixing the problems here in Afghanistan."

The area is very dangerous. Previously, a rogue Afghan policeman who was 'turned' by the Taliban killed three British soldiers and injured four with a rocket-propelled grenade. One is the dead was a Nepalese Gurkha, the others were UK nationals.

After the briefing and discussion with the planning staff of the Gurkha battle group, Gen Petraeus met Sergeant Diprasad Pun, of A Company.

He was congratulated for his bravery displayed during an insurgent attack on his Company checkpoint.

The general also met men in C Company who have led the way in forming a 'protected community' within their Company area.

The MoD said the area has seen a vast improvement in security since the partnered forces of the Gurkhas with their Afghan National Army and police counterparts have set up checkpoints.

A village development council has also been formed by local elders.

Archie's back on third tour with new role

A KENT soldier is so highly regarded he is setting off for Afghanistan for his third tour, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

He is part of a team that trains and mentors the Afghan police.

Captain Niall Archibald, known as Archie, is based in the town of Lashkar Gah, the capital of Helmand province. The 27-year-old's unit is the Canterbury-based Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 5th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland.

His usual role in the UK is as the battalion's air operations officer.

British forces are in the country to support a Nato international security assistance force mission and as part of the US-led Operation Enduring Freedom.

On previous tours, in 2006 and 2008, Archie was a platoon commander in the Afghan capital Kabul, and a fire support group commander in the Upper Gereshk valley. This time his role is as the media officer for the police development advisory training team, which is training members of the Afghan National Police and bringing the force up to a sufficiently high standard to take over security responsibilities currently performed by British and Nato troops.

GREAT SCOT: Capt Niall Archibald, of Canterbury-based 5 Scots, is training Afghan police

Archie said: "As media officer, I am responsible for communicating the role of 5 Scots, and the progress the battalion makes, in its work mentoring and training the Afghan National Police in the British area of operations in Helmand.

"That's not just about talking to journalists but also ensuring that what we are doing is understood by the Afghan people. It's a very different role to anything I've done before, but I'm finding it really interesting."

He added: "It is good to see how much progress has been made each time I return to Afghanistan. There is now a great deal of emphasis on developing the faculties of governance, such as the Afghan National Police and the justice department and this shows how much development there has been on security in Helmand province.

"You can really see now that the Afghan agencies are beginning to take on responsibility for providing security themselves."

The British Army wants the current 106,000 fully-trained Afghan National Police force boosted to 134,000 by the end of next year.

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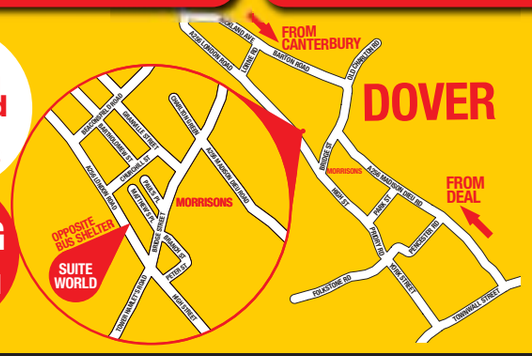

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LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817001, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

Instant expert lacks empathy

What sort of 'expert' is C Russell of Ramsgate on the reasons why and how children are deemed to have special needs or not? (Letters, October 3).

I am the parent of one of the children C Russell feels able to pass judgement on, only to be told by some ill-informed, yet self-opinionated person that I, as the mother, am the sole reason my child has special needs.

It is the opinions of people like C Russell that disadvantages children and adults with learning needs.

I wonder if C Russell's mother is proud she produced such a well-rounded member of society?

I doubt it. I was 29 and my husband 30 when we had our first child. My children have a loving home life, with a father who brings home a good wage to provide for his wife and two children and a mother who cooks and bakes from scratch every day.

Our children are read to daily and encouraged to read aloud themselves. In addition to the academic work we encourage our children with all the teaching aids we can get – wipeable practice boards, memory games, counting games, reading flashcards, phonics books and the same computer software as the school – we also go camping at weekends and holidays and enjoy boating and walking in the countryside to experience the wonders nature provides and encourage our children to experience as much of life as possible.

My children have swimming lessons, and trampoline and dance classes, they do not play in the street or sit on the sofa all day and we do not smoke or use foul language or feed them junk food.

My son is of perfectly 'normal' learning ability and at four years old can write all our names and read simple words. My daughter, however, was born with a condition eventually diagnosed as global developmental delay. From the day my daughter started school I have had to fight with the school and local authority to provide the extra support a child with special learning needs requires. Reading C Russell's list of assumptions about what I allow my child to do, and the assumptions they have made about me as a mother, is both insulting and unfounded.

C Russell may think they have all the answers to being a good parent, but they sadly lack the empathy and good manners to be a decent member of society. To be discriminatory about people for whom simple things can be an enormous task compounds an ever-growing lack of knowledge, understanding and respect.

Mrs Boyle, Rochester

OPINION: 'A BOLD NEW PARTNERSHIP'

As the Government introduces Local Enterprise Partnerships, **ALAN JARRETT** explains why Medway Council's bid would be the best option for Kent's future

IMAGINE that you are at the bar of a pub and the person perched on the stool next to you starts talking about sub-national economic development re-organisations.

To put it bluntly, it's unlikely anyone would blame you if you made your excuses and left.

Now if that person had wanted to talk about the future of Kent and Medway in simple terms, that would have been a different matter.

That is why I'm going to tell you why this is such an important subject that will affect every person in Kent and Medway.

The coalition Government has decided to scrap the current top-down, centrally imposed Regional Development Agencies (RDA) – public, unelected, bodies that cover huge areas and gain funding for businesses, infrastructure and regeneration in their area.

In Kent, we have the South East England Development Agency – or Seeda as it is known.

Seeda's HQ is in Guildford and it has been charged with improving and making more affluent an area stretching from Oxford to Dover and from Milton Keynes to the New Forest.

The Government has decided that Seeda, and the other eight RDAs across England, are too remote – and don't satisfactorily service the areas they cover. Instead, the Government wants to replace them with locally formed and led Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) consisting of councils and businesses.

These would work for smaller populations and areas, and ministers believe they will "radically reshape the way business and government interact at the local level".

In line with the Government's enthusiasm for 'localism', we have grabbed the initiative and proposed a bold new partnership between councils and businesses in Kent and Medway.

Other bids have been put forward, but Medway Council's bid, supported by north and west Kent district councils as well as the majority of Kent's MPs, would be big enough to influence Whitehall, but small enough to deal with our local challenges.

It would cover a geographic and natural economic area with a population of 1.6 million people – larger than any other UK city except London but based in one county, keeping it manageable.

This new partnership would aim to improve our infrastructure, deliver new development, improve skills and attract investment. The case for investment in Kent and Medway is strong. With the country's largest port and international rail connections, this is the gateway to Britain.

The institutional infrastructure is in place and the county is recognised as a brand for investors and visitors and as a powerful source of identity for residents. This is not an artificial region: it is a stable, organic, county.

In addition, the area has potential for huge economic growth that will not only benefit Kent, but the nation as a whole.

The county contains two growth areas of national importance: the Thames Gateway and Ashford, as well as growth points at Dover and Maidstone.

It has major sites for economic expansion, such as Manston, Ebbsfleet valley and the port of Dover. And it has emerging growth sectors such as renewable energy in east and north Kent and media industries in Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells.

In addition, Medway is undergoing unprecedented regeneration. It has four universities with more than 10,000 students and is the largest conurbation in the South East.

In all, the county has the potential to provide 130,000 extra jobs and 140,000 new homes over the next 20 years.

Last week, 12 of Kent's 17 MPs wrote to business and community ministers Vince Cable and Eric Pickles voicing their support for a Kent and Medway LEP. Another MP has already spoken in favour of it.

The final decision rests with Mr Cable and Mr Pickles. We can demonstrate that our local partnership can provide local solutions to promote enterprise. Hopefully they will let us prove this.

• ***Cllr Alan Jarrett is the deputy leader of Medway Council***

KOS media COMMENT

We need support in depressing times

MENTAL health has always carried a stigma, and many people prefer not to talk about their problems.

With other illnesses, such as cancer, the troops rally around and offer all the help they can because they at least understand what is happening to their loved one.

But with mental health, people are not so quick to come forward to help, and yet figures show more than 250,000 people in Kent and Medway suffer from some sort of mental health issue.

This is why it is important that plans are pushed forward to improve services and why authorities have to spend millions each year to tackle a problem which threatens to spiral out of control.

With economic problems and spending cuts looming, the UK isn't the most buoyant of places to live at the moment.

The NHS says unemployment and debt can lead to depression, and with hundreds of public sector jobs expected to be cut in the near future, everything needs to be done to stop people falling into a black hole of despair.

MP Roger Gale has said there can't be special pleas to to spare certain funding streams, but in the case of mental health this must be one area left alone.

If people are faced with job losses and spending cuts, money can't be taken from a service that is helping them cope.

Pie in the sky, and the sea, and the face

IT'S the stuff kids' dreams are made of. A giant cannon shooting an arsenal of pies across the sea – in this case one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world, a fact that seems to have escaped the notice of those behind the madcap plan.

Whether the pies will ever get to Calais is uncertain, but imagining salty seadogs on their boats ducking and diving to avoid getting a chicken and asparagus pie in the face will be satisfying enough.

Scruff justice at sharp end

Each day I read and hear of terrible threats to mankind, be they political, financial, terrorist or climatic. But the greatest threat of all goes unnoticed – so many male mega celebrities, whether sporting and/or showbiz, and those mere scruffy mortals who emulate same, cannot now afford a razor blade.

So may I suggest we each dig deep and set up a worldwide charity – Spare-a-Penny-For-A-Blade – to rectify this deeply worrying trend?

Ian R Elliott, Whitstable

Cull would be a fatal error

Kent Green Party opposes the badger cull. We do not believe it is ethical or practical to carry out a sustained removal of an indigenous species over a minimum area of 100 square kilometres.

We believe addressing cattle-to-cattle transmission and the development of a vaccine is the key.

Bovine TB is spread because of intensive farming. The constant use of drugs leads to drug-resistant conditions. Animals, unlike humans, breed to a sustainable level.

It is very likely a cull this year would lead to a population explosion next year. The best option is organic farming, where the animals are naturally healthy and happy, which would boost their immune systems so they are naturally resistant to TB.

An overall reduction in meat consumption would help. Interfering with nature has caused this problem, and further interference will only make things worse.

The initial, very expensive (£50 million) and comprehensive field trial by the independent scientific group on badger TB chaired by Prof Bourne found that, in summary, that neither the proactive or reactive culling of badgers can be recommended as a means of controlling TB in cattle.

Culling causes badgers to move, spreading infection and undermining reductions in TB in cattle achieved in the area where culling has taken place.

We understand that TB is of great concern to farmers and also has welfare implications for cattle. However, the answer lies with better diets and welfare policies for cattle to improve their immune systems, not culling badgers.

Steve Campkin, animal rights campaigns officer, Kent Green Party

And did those feet of clay …

Donald Worsley (Letters, October 3) must either be young or naive. Politicians have been taking us to the New Jerusalem for longer than I care to remember.

The most damning incident in Labour leader Ed Miliband's inaugural speech was when Harriet Harman applauded his condemnation of the invasion of Iraq, prompting David Miliband to her to ask why she was applauding as she voted for the invasion. She replied: "Because he's the leader."

No principles, no conscience, no thought for democracy, or what is right, just follow my leader. They all talk the talk, but when it is time to put up or shut up, they are full of excuses or nowhere to be seen. For any politician to carry out the measures deemed necessary to halt global warming would be electoral suicide. It would cause a dramatic drop in living standards and create mass unemployment. When politicians are out of power they're happy to promise anything, but the deeds never match the words. That's why the world is in a mess. I'm sorry, Mr Worsley, but Ed will not be taking us to the New Jerusalem.

Phil Granger, West Malling

Register for referendum

There's been lot of interest in the proposal to hold a referendum on the voting system we use to elect MPs. This is due on May 5 when there will also be local elections in parts of England. Now is the time to fill in and return the annual form received through the post to make sure you are on the electoral register.

You can even request a postal vote now, so you won't miss your chance to have your say. Visit www.aboutmyvote.co.uk for details about the canvass and forthcoming elections and referendums.

Peter Wardle, chief executive, Electoral Commission

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400
For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

ALLEN
Daniel and Pamela of Canterbury are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Grace Bridget Mei Allen, on 22nd September 2010. A new sister for George.

BAINBRIDGE
Emma and Michael of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Rhys Robert Bainbridge, born on 26th September 2010 at QEQM, weighing 7lb 15oz. Our most beautiful and precious son.

BARNETT
Oliver Alan Alastair Barnett was born 6:37am on 12th September 2010 at the William Harvey Hospital weighing 7lb 12oz. Son for Ann Marie Langer and Neil Barnett.

BROCKMAN
Joanne and Ian of Margate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Theo Samuel Friend Brockman, born on 18th September 2010. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

BRUTY
Wendy and Mark of Cliffsend, Ramsgate, are delighted to announce the birth of their son Mouie Mark Bruty, born on 25th September 2010 at QEQM weighing 8lb 2oz. Brother for Sienna.

COOK
Tony Cook and Sandra Forster would like to announce the birth of their son Kieran Cook, who was born on the 17th September 2010, arriving early weighing 3lb 14oz. He is now doing very well and we look forward to taking him home. Lots of Love Mummy and Daddy.

FRENCH
Sarah and James French celebrate the birth of their daughter Annabelle Lucy French on 24th September 2010.

HAMBLETT
Rebecca and Saul celebrate the birth of their daughter Isla Olivia Rose Hamblett on 20th September 2010.

HUELIN
Gemma and Rhys of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Evan Joseph Huelin, born on 27th September 2010 at QEQM Hospital weighing 7lb 11oz. Brother to Josh, Libby and Zach.

JOHNSON
Chelsey and Ethan celebrate the birth of their daughter Esmee Olivia Johnson on the 5th September 2010, weighing 9lb.

MARTIN
Sharon and Steve are proud to announce the birth of their beautiful baby boy Ray Steven Martin, born on 20th September 2010 at 11.30am, weighing 7lb 2oz.

POTTER
Eleanor Louise born on 20th September 2010 weighing 7lbs 5oz. Daughter to Natalie and Greg.

SHARP
Catherine and Paul of Chilham are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful son, Nathan Paul Sharp, on 19 September 2010.

SMITH
Adam Aldridge and Leanne Smith are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Isabelle Sarah Anne Smith, born on 20th September 2010, weighing 5lbs 12oz.

STUART
Gemma, Paul and Sienna Stuart are pleased to announce the birth of Billy Stuart (formally known as Jodey, Chase, Jay and The Stig), born on the 20th August 2010 weighing 8lb 6oz. The perfect little family.

WEATHERALL
Steven Weatherall and Charity Brown of Sandwich celebrate the birth of their daughter Grace Weatherall on 22nd September 2010.

DEATHS

CALLIS
It is with great sadness we announce the death of Graham Frank Callis who died on 17th September 2010. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

LEWIS
Roger John passed away after a short illness on the 1st October 2010 aged 60. Beloved husband of Vicky and devoted father to John and David. Funeral to be held at St Marys Church Chartham on 15th October at 2pm. No flowers, by request. Donations to Pilgrims Hospice, Canterbury, care of CW Lyons, Military Rd, Canterbury CT1 1ND.

LONG
Dot Long of Folkestone died peacefully at home on 21st Septermber 2010. Sadly missed by all her family.

PRIOR
It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden death of David Prior of Gravesend. He passed away at Hawthorne Farm, Martin Mill, on the 24th September 2010. He will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

RUCK
Madeline (Mandy) Ruck on the 22nd September 2010 aged 92 at Kent and Canterbury Hospital. Dearly beloved mother of son Richard and grandmother to James and Tom.

SMITH
Lorna Smith of Bodsham, much loved mother and nan, passed away peacefully on 30th September 2010. Enquiries to Earl and Co Funeral Directors.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

Charity's lifeblood

I am writing to thank you and your readers for supporting the British Heart Foundation (BHF) as part of the nation's biggest ever stock appeal – The Big Donation. The campaign, which ran throughout September, aimed to bring in 400,000 bags of stock – the equivalent of £8 million in 30 days.

BHF has been overwhelmed with the support shown in Kent. Shops across the county had an ambitious target of 17,709 bags alone – the equivalent of £354,180 – helping fund the BHF's fight against heart disease, the UK's biggest killer.

Having had two heart attacks, the BHF has always been a cause very close to me. Last year, BHF shops raised over £22m. Stock really is their lifeblood, so think twice before hoarding those unwanted items.

There's still time to make your mark on The Big Donation by having a clear out, filling a bag and supporting your local shop.

Everyone can help by donating good quality clothing, shoes, accessories, CDs, DVDs, books, toys and bric-a-brac. If you're planning on clearing out your home as well as your wardrobe, why not organise a free collection for that sofa you no longer need, or drop by your local BHF furniture and electrical store with those unwanted toasters and kettles. For more information on The Big Donation and BHF's free collection service, visit bhf.org.uk/bigdonation. To find your nearest BHF shop, call 0844 412 5000.

Paul O'Grady, comedian and TV presenter, Aldington

Meeting our needs

As a supporter of the Changing Places campaign, I think it's a disgrace that people with severe disabilities are being denied access to public toilet facilities that meet their needs.

Without access to Changing Places toilets – a facility that has a hoist, changing bench and plenty of space – carers are often forced to change their disabled loved ones on dirty toilet floors. While KCC is leading the way with four Changing Places toilets, there are still only 85 Changing Places toilets across the country.

People with profound and multiple learning disabilities should have the same opportunities as everyone else.

And carers have enough to contend with, let's not make their lives harder by denying them the right to basic public facilities. I urge readers to sign the online petition about this issue at www.mencap.org.uk/changelives.

Sarah Stroulger, Boughton Monchelsea

Hit the heights

On behalf of the Meningitis Trust can I thank those who took part in our English 3000s – Trek the Lake District Challenge. The team scaled eight peaks in the Lake District over 3,000ft in order to raise sponsorship for those affected by meningitis across the UK.

Thirty-eight people took part in the trek and despite the rain and gale-force winds they made it to the top of each peak. The challenge of conquering the peaks in just two days was well worthwhile, as they are on track to raise more than £30,000.

With support from determined people like our trekkers, we are able to help about 20,000 people each year, supporting anyone affected by this life-changing disease through our free professional aftercare and support services. These include a freephone 24-hour nurse-staffed helpline (0800 028 18 28), counselling, financial support grants, art therapy, home visits and one-to-one contacts.

We are so grateful for their commitment and I would like to express our thanks and congratulations to them. If anyone would like to take part in next year's trek, on September 8-11, 2011, please get in touch.

Steve Williams, Meningitis Trust

Pledge on arthritis

Arthritis Care wants to mark World Arthritis Day on Tuesday (October 12) by asking firms to show a commitment to the charity's Employers' Pledge.

Arthritis is the biggest cause of physical disability in the UK, affecting up to 10 million people and it carries a huge economic as well as human and social cost. The pledge is a statement of commitment setting out suggestions of best practice. It serves to raise employers' awareness of how arthritis affects people in the workplace and to encourage them to make positive changes to the work lives of their employees.

Employers who have already signed the pledge include BT, the Royal Mail Group and the Work Foundation.

For more information, to download a copy of the Employers' Pledge or to find out more about how people with arthritis can take steps to stay in or return to work, along with tips on what employers can do to support them, visit our website at www.arthritiscare.org.uk.

Suzanne Salmon, Arthritis Care, South England

Make a difference

Families, children, community groups, individuals and local MPs are joining forces this month to do something spectacular – and I am encouraging your readers to do the same.

I want family and friends to spend time together and volunteer a little to benefit their community. This year's Make a Difference Day – Saturday, October 30 – is the nation's biggest day of volunteering and we need help on thousands of projects. As the ambassador of CSV Make a Difference Day, I am urging people of all ages to get involved to transform their community into a beautiful area. Plant bulbs ready for spring in the local park, dig out the old abandoned shopping trolley from a neglected pond, or perhaps a put a fresh lick of paint to a rusty play area – I've seen at first hand the positive impact that giving time can have on the lives of others.

This is the 15th Make a Difference Day organised by CSV, the UK's leading volunteering charity. More than half a million people have taken part so far. This year we're also encouraging families to volunteer to help others after new research shows that families want to spend more quality time together. You can register for CSV Make a Difference Day now to receive free resources to help create an inspirational volunteer project. So whether you want to take part with your company, school, community group, or even go it alone, get in touch now by visiting www.csv.org.uk/difference or calling freephone 0800 284533.

Pete Waterman, ambassador, CSV Make a Difference Day

Musketeers appeal

Now the results of the Virgin London Marathon ballot have been revealed, we would like to ask any readers who are taking part in the run on April 17, 2011, and have an independent place, if they would like to run for Meningitis UK.

Meningitis UK has a single focus – to find a vaccine to eradicate all forms of meningitis. Tragically, meningitis and meningococcal septicaemia continue to affect thousands in the UK every year and kill more children under five than any other infectious disease.

Everyone who runs for Meningitis UK will be part of the Meningitis Musketeers team, with the motto 'All 4 One and One 4 All' – to highlight the fact that meningitis can kill in under four hours and the importance of our Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign.

Full support will be given and everyone who participates will receive a free running vest or T-shirt, and a handy information pack including hints and tips on how to prepare.

If you would like to take part in the Virgin London Marathon and help us achieve our vision, please contact me on 0117 302 6191 for a sponsorship pack. I look forward to hearing from you.

Toya Champ, Meningitis UK

Isle Magazine Autumn/Winter 2010

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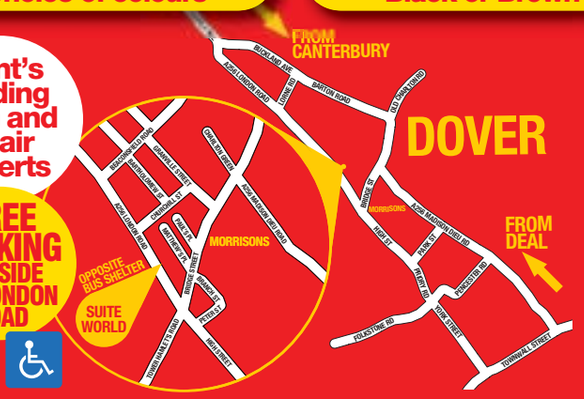

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WINNER: Andrew Steele with science pupils

Hard work is key reveals Olympian

AN OLYMPIC gold medallist has given a talk to students about the discipline needed to succeed in competitive sport.

Andrew Steele told science pupils at Mid-Kent College's Maidstone campus that with determination almost any young person can get to a world-class level.

The 400m runner said: "I've got to the level I'm at now through a combination of good decision-making and sheer hard work. Believe it or not, I've not got that much natural talent."

The 26-year-old, who represented Britain at the Beijing Olympics, said: "People see Olympic runners with their rippling muscles and assume they were born to athletics.

"That's just not the case, most I know are at that level purely as a result of intense training and discipline."

Summer interns talking business

STUDENTS from North West Kent College have discussed their summer internships with some of the UK's biggest companies.

Pupils took part in six-week paid internships with companies including Lloyds Banking Group, Commerz Bank, ITV, Lloyds Corporation, Morgan Stanley and Ofcom.

It formed part of a two-year programme at the Dartford college where students can gain a BTEC National Diploma in Business, which is equivalent to three A-levels.

Pupils discussed their experiences with members of the Career Academy Local Advisory Board and supervisors from the firms.

North West Kent College's Marianne Henden said: "We hope the internships will have an aspirational effect on our students, giving them a sense of the range of careers out there and the confidence to pursue their interests and passions."

MEMBERS of the public are being invited to a charcoal-making training day.

Woodcraft expert Alan Sage will give a 'how to' session to show people the main principles behind making charcoal and discuss production techniques.

The free event, funded by the Sita Trust, is being held at Wye Community Farm, near Ashford, on Saturday, October 23, from 10am to 5pm.

For information, contact the farm on 01233 813303 or visit www.wyecommunityfarm.org.uk.

Highly praised courses offer a new start in life

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

ADULTS looking to progress their skills are being offered the chance to start new courses through the highly praised community learning service at County Hall.

The facility was recently commended by Ofsted, with inspectors impressed by the 5,000 students and 40 businesses applauding the Kent County Council Community Learning and Skill's service.

The Ofsted assessment looked at Kent Adult Education, Skills Plus and KEY Training Services, which provides work-based training solutions.

The report found KCC offered a wide range of courses for all levels and praised its support for socially deprived learners.

KCC is now inviting adults to look at a fresh range of classes to help with employment and career progression.

Cllr Mike Hill, cabinet member for community services, said it was important people could get learning and training opportunities.

Positive

"We have worked hard to improve our adult education and KEY training services and I was very pleased to read the overwhelmingly positive Ofsted report," he said.

"We are absolutely committed to helping residents keep learning throughout life."

Users of the learning and skills facility have praised the service.

POSITIVE: Cabinet member Cllr Mike Hill

Chris Bailey, from Maidstone, had no formal literacy qualifications or skills before he attended the Skills Plus Centre in the town.

The staff helped him improve his reading and writing skills and he learnt how to identify suitable jobs and search for work.

Harpreet Marwaha used KEY Training's Open Door programme to gain the qualifications, employability skills and work experience needed to achieved his NVQ in administration and gain an apprentice placement.

For more information about the range of new courses on offer, go to http://www.kentadulteducation.co.uk.

Institution launches online surveyor training academy

AN ONLINE training academy has been launched by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) to create a virtual learning environment for students, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

It provides a range of courses, information, e-learning material and free podcasts designed for members of the institution, trainees and property professionals.

Training courses available to study online include Assessment of Professional Competence (APC), which leads to gaining chartered status.

Jo Shockley, head of policy at RICS South, said: "We are reviewing how we communicate with, meet the needs of, and support our online audiences around the world.

"The RICS online academy is part of this strategy to make learning and training as easy, accessible and enjoyable as possible for property professionals.

"These resources are available to RICS members and non-members alike and some are free of charge."

She said all the e-learning material and courses are well thought out and challenging.

"They lead to some of the toughest assessments. All of the information, resources and courses are easy to access and follow, so it will help property professionals develop their knowledge and skills in an extremely time-effective manner as they can utilise it around their busy schedules."

For more information about the RICS online academy, go to www.training.rics.org.

Learn about student life at open days

THE University of Kent is holding two open days to give prospective undergraduates a taste of student life.

Thousands of visitors are expected to attend the events at the Canterbury campus on Saturday, October 9, and the Medway campus on Saturday, October 16, from 9am to 4pm.

Information on full-time, part-time, undergraduate and postgraduate study will be available plus the opportunity to talk with tutors from the large range of courses. Talks, demonstrations and workshops will run throughout the day.

For further details and to register, visit www.kent.ac.uk/open days. Booking is essential.

See students' work at new website gallery

A NEW website for the University for the Creative Arts has been launched showcasing a diverse range of artwork from students.

The webpage will allow visitors to see work produced at the university, which has campuses in Canterbury, Maidstone and Rochester, though a huge online gallery displaying paintings, films, photographs and fashion designs.

Helen Anderson, assistant director of marketing, said the number one priority for prospective students visiting the site was to view the work of others.

"As a result, we worked with Precedent to create a unique media wall which showcases the diverse range of work produced at our campuses," she said.

"Our research explored student browsing habits, and the whole site was built around student preferences for information."

Visit the new site at www.ucreative.ac.uk.

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Closing date for applications is Friday 15 October 2010, no agencies.

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Closing date for application 18 October 2010

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For further details of the post and how to apply, please see: **http://www.folkestoneseafront.com/developments**
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About us

KOS Media publishes the UK award-winning Kent on Sunday newspaper and a series of free weekly newspapers, magazines and associated websites and mobile products.

The company produces kentnews.co.uk and yourkentTV, an internet-based TV service providing regional and local news, business and sport, plus websites for jobs, property and motors.

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Closing Date: 15th October 2010

Interviews to be held on 19th October 2010.

For further details and a job description, please contact Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 3SP (01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying.

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Stone Bay School is committed to the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children and employees are required to have an enhanced CRB disclosure. KCC final-salary pension scheme membership available.

Please phone 01843 863421, e-mail office@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk, or write to Stone Bay School, 70 Stone Road, Broadstairs, CT10 1EB for an application form.

Closing date for applications is Friday 12th November 2010.

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£10,079 plus 10% per annum – 36.5 hours per week, (including weekends) – Term time only, plus 2 weeks *

As part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends.

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS (TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS – EDUCATION)

£12,689 per annum - 37.5 hours per week, 7.30 a.m. – 3.30 p.m. (from childcare teams into classrooms) Mon-Fri - Term time only, plus 2 weeks *

The successful applicants will be responsible for assisting teachers in the school.

*For these roles there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which extra payment would be paid.

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

We are committed to sustainability and preserving the environment and therefore encourage applications by email, so for an application form and information pack please email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk
Or you may call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine).

Please note that CVs will not be considered.

The closing date for all applications is 12 noon Friday 15th October 2010.

www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Shift to another gear

SKC

west kent college

Lecturer in Motor Vehicle Studies

£23,760 - £32,666 pa

Tunbridge Wells

With increasing student numbers, our IMI and Motorsport programmes are already hugely successful. Now we are aiming to take that success still further, which is why we need an enthusiastic professional to join us in this brand new role. Teaching learners aged 14 and upwards at levels 1, 2 and 3, you will engage and inspire every student to achieve their goals.

A significant trade background is essential, combined with a good knowledge of IMI programmes at levels 1 and 2. You should also have experience of training apprentices and ideally a teaching/assessing qualification.

This College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our users and expects all staff to share this commitment, in order for all to achieve their full potential. The successful applicant will be required to undertake a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check and to provide proof of their right to work in the UK.

To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online, visit www.wkc.ac.uk Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk Please quote ref: T7061

Closing date: 12 noon on Thursday 14th October 2010

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer in Electrical Installation *Ref: P0357*

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential.

Lecturer in Child Care *Ref: P0070*

18.5 hours per week. Fixed term Maternity cover

Lecturer in Child Care and Health and Social Care *Ref: P0232*

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum/pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking for knowledgeable and experienced candidates to deliver CACHE Child Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidates will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

***CLOSING DATE:* Friday 15 October 2010**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from **www.midkent.ac.uk**. Alternatively, please e-mail **job.applications@midkent.ac.uk**. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Action for Business College · Investors in Diversity · RBLI · MidKent College

JobsforKent.co.uk

A selection of the 100s of Local Jobs online

Accountancy

Purchase Ledger Clerk

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Purchase Ledger Clerk Head Office, Ashford. A vacancy for the position of Purchase Ledger Clerk has arisen in the GSE Group. The successful candidate will ideally have worked in a similar role, and in a busy high volume, data processing environment. You will work under your own initiative and be able to prioritise your workload to meet specified timeframes. Essentially you must be competent in the use of Microsoft Outlook, Excel & Word applications. If you are interested in apply for this position, please submit your application in writing together with a CV to Sue Whittaker, HR Manager - Joshna House, Crowbridge Road, Orbital Park, Ashford, Kent TN24 0GR. Alternatively email your application to sue.whittaker@gse-group.com.
To apply/more information:
GSE Group
linde.taylor.gse-group.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Contracts Manager

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Contracts Manager
GSE Design & Build Limited requires a motivated and enthusiastic Contracts Manager with a proven track record showing the ability to deliver projects in Kent & Sussex on budget, to programme and to the satisfaction of the client. Your CV should demonstrate experience in a range of market sectors including commercial, retail, education and health with both traditional and design and build contract forms. An excellent package is offered to the right candidate. Application in writing enclosing a CV to Sue Whittaker, HR Manager , Joshna House, Crowbridge Road, Orbital Business Park, Ashford, Kent TN24 9GR or sue.whittaker@gse-group.com . Closing date is 15th October 2010.
To apply/more information:
GSE Group
linde.taylor.gse-group.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Parish Clerk

Wye
Salary NJC Payrates
WYE with HINXHILL PARISH COUNCILPARISH CLERKPart-time (18 hrs per week)Flexible, home-based - NJC pay rates
This post provides a major opportunity for a forward-looking and committed person to serve the Parish Council at a critical time in Wye's history and to contribute to the successful development of the Council and village alike. The Clerk's work is varied and involves acting on the Council's behalf as its executive and point of contact for the public and all external organisations, as well as servicing its monthly evening meetings and other occasional events. Starting in January 2011 the successful candidate will overlap with the present Clerk, who will take up the post of Responsible Financial Officer in April 2011. The new Clerk will be given support to work for the CiLCA qualification. Please visit the Council's website www.wyeparish.info for a job description, person specification and application details. Closing date for the receipt of applications is 15th October 2010. Interviews will take place on the evening of 2nd November 2010.
To apply/more information:
WYE with HINXHILL PARISH COUNCIL
wye.parishclerk@btinternet.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Installation Administrator

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Sunray Engineering Ltd - Manufactures and installers of steel doors, fire doors, security doors, industrial doors and louvre systems. We are looking for an experienced, self motivated person to ensure the smooth organisation of our site installations, this person needs to be a strong, confident and well organised individual. Previous Field Service Administration experience is a pre requisite. Some of the Main Duties Include: Organising, planning and scheduling of the installation work program and liaison with all departments within the company to ensure this plan is achieved.Liaison with Site Contacts to ensure delivery of customers orders for site installation.Produce and supply all relevant supporting documentation to site including O & M manuals, method statements, Health & safety, risk assessments and site data packsConstant liaison with site to ensure installation can take place when required and re-organisation of installation and production program as required.To produce the actual job costing's and provide regular feedback as to performance against budgets.Any further administration duties required for other areas of the business. To apply please email your CV to damian.kerry@sunraydoors.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Sunray Engineering Ltd
damian.kerry@sunraydoors.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Catering, Hospitality

Deputy manager

Nr Tunbridge Wells
Salary £25,000
Crew needed for the Nevill Crest and Gun, Eridge. The Nevill Crest and Gun near Tunbridge Wells is a beautiful old building that has nowcome under the wing of Brunning and Price, and we're embarking on an extensive renovationscheme to bring it back on song. With good luck we hope to re-open in December. You may already know the Hare in Langton Green that we have operated for 22 years, and have more recently opened the White Hart in Sevenoaks. Our pub restaurants are traditional in style, with decent old furniture and open fires, and we serve simple, high quality fresh food. Below are some of the positions we're looking for right now, but we'll also be recruiting forgardeners, cleaners, kitchen porters and front of house staff:• Deputy manager - package up to £25,000To find out more have a browse through the website below. If you're interested in applying please email jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk enclosing a CV with a recent photo and covering letter,telling us a bit about yourself and what makes you tick.
www.brunningandprice.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Brunning & Price
jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Assistant manager

Nr Tunbridge Wells
Salary Up to £20,000
The Nevill Crest and Gun near Tunbridge Wells is a beautiful old building that has nowcome under the wing of Brunning and Price, and we're embarking on an extensive renovationscheme to bring it back on song. With good luck we hope to re-open in December.You may already know the Hare in Langton Green that we have operated for 22 years, and have more recently opened the White Hart in Sevenoaks. Our pub restaurants are traditional in style, with decent old furniture and open fires, and we serve simple, high quality fresh food.Below are some of the positions we're looking for right now, but we'll also be recruiting for gardeners, cleaners, kitchen porters and front of house staff: • Assistant manager - Up to £20,000To find out more have a browse through the website below. If you're interested in applyingplease email jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk enclosing a CV with a recent photo and covering letter,telling us a bit about yourself and what makes you tick.
www.brunningandprice.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Brunning & Price
jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sous Chef

Nr Tunbridge Wells
Salary Up to £25,000
The Nevill Crest and Gun near Tunbridge Wells is a beautiful old building that has nowcome under the wing of Brunning and Price, and we're embarking on an extensive renovationscheme to bring it back on song. With good luck we hope to re-open in December.You may already know the Hare in Langton Green that we have operated for 22 years, and have more recently opened the White Hart in Sevenoaks. Our pub restaurants are traditional in style, with decent old furniture and open fires, and we serve simple, high quality fresh food.Below are some of the positions we're looking for right now, but we'll also be recruiting for gardeners, cleaners, kitchen porters and front of house staff: • Sous Chef - package up to £25,000To find out more have a browse through the website below. If you're interested in applying please email jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk enclosing a CV with a recent photo and covering letter,telling us a bit about yourself and what makes you tick.
www.brunningandprice.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Brunning & Price
jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Production Resources Manager

London
Salary Negotiable
Production Resources Manager The Company is about to embark on a new phase of business expansion and has a vacancy for a Production Resources Manager. The successful candidate will have overall accountability for the co-ordination and management of the Company's production planning and scheduling activities to achieve on time delivery performance to customers such as Rolls Royce, Airbus and Westland Helicopters. The Company operates a comprehensive bespoke manufacturing data base system and has an established production control team to plan demand and manufacturing resource. Candidates must have a background in manufacturing and a proven track record in production control management, must be a good communicator, resourceful and motivated to develop systems and strategies. It is important the candidate has the presence to manage influence others. The new position will be immediately responsible to the Operations Director for the control of capacity planning and scheduling of production for the business. Applications with C.V. to Jean.gailer@stonefoundries.com
To apply/more information:
Stone Foundries
jean.gailer@stonefoundries.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

IT Service Engineer

Ramsgate and Client Sites
Salary £18K-£22K
We are currently seeking a highly skilled service engineer with the drive and determination to help us support our client base. This position reports to our Service Manager. We are looking for an individual who is a problem-solver and has a proven track record of working within a team environment to successfully address challenging user computing issues and is accustomed to utilising technical training opportunities to improve their skills. If you have the experience and the desire, we'd like to talk to you. Our service engineers are responsible for maintaining user uptime and improving their computing experiences through effective remote monitoring, maintenance and problem identification and resolution activities, as well as growing and developing the organisation's perception with existing customers through exceptional customer service. Candidates must be energetic and focused with a strong motivation to learn new technologies and management and maintenance processes. This position requires dedication, persistence, follow-up, effective utilisation of provided resources and unbeatable customer service. This position will include identifying user problems and working within a structured problem management and resolution process to remediate them within established SLAs, and involves working with other resources and vendors to deliver effective support services. Responsibilities include identifying, documenting and troubleshooting user computing issues to resolution and maintaining customer satisfaction. Job duties include utilising our remote monitoring and management (RMM) and professional services automation (PSA) solutions along with other service-specific tools and technologies to deliver remote user support services and update service request information, answer technical support calls, assign ticket severity, prioritise work accordingly, and collaborate and work with other staff and vendor support resources to resolve issues. Overall relationship management and the ability to coordinate required resources to respond to complex IT requirements are desired. Other requirements include participating in on-going training and attainment of manufacturer certifications, developing and maintaining relationships with user and vendor contacts, and preparing and presenting service and monitoring reports to management when required. Minimum Skills Required: Relevant service engineering experience & Microsoft Certified Professional status & Excellent knowledge of our supported software and technologies & Strong interpersonal skills required to effectively communicate with users and vendors & Passion for teamwork, continuing education, problem solving and exceptional customer service Must be well spoken, outgoing, organised, detailed-orientated, dependable and flexible· Detailed experience with HP, SonicWALL and Cisco solutions advantageous & Valid current driver's license This Position Entails: Troubleshooting user problems over the phone and with remote

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control technologies· Accurate documentation of all activities conducted· Field based support and installation work· Participating in the weekly on call' rota for out-of-hours support & The ability to manage, maintain, troubleshoot and support our users' networks, equipment, software and services · The ability to learn quickly and adapt to changing requirements The Successful Candidate must be: Professional and articulate · Interpersonally adept · Technically proficient · A relationship builder · A problem solver In addition to the salary for this post there are non-contractual bonuses to be earned for meeting utilisation, compliance and customer service requirements. Qualified candidates please download the application form at www.bcs-online.co.uk/application.pdf - If you have any questions regarding this position, please contact Gareth Johns on 01843 572604 or email gareth.johns@ bcs-online.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Business Computer Solutions
gareth.johns@bcs-online.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Management, Senior Positions

Production Resources Manager

London
Salary Negotiable
Production Resources Manager The Company is about to embark on a new phase of business expansion and has a vacancy for a Production Resources Manager. The successful candidate will have overall accountability for the co-ordination and management of the Company's production planning and scheduling activities to achieve on time delivery performance to customers such as Rolls Royce, Airbus and Westland Helicopters. The Company operates a comprehensive bespoke manufacturing data base system and has an established production control team to plan demand and manufacturing resource. Candidates must have a background in manufacturing and a proven track record in production control management, must be a good communicator, resourceful and motivated to develop systems and strategies. It is important the candidate has the presence to manage influence others. The new position will be immediately responsible to the Operations Director for the control of capacity planning and scheduling of production for the business. Applications with C.V. to Jean.gailer@ stonefoundries.com
To apply/more information:
Stone Foundries
jean.gailer@stonefoundries.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Marketing, Advertising

Field Sales Roles

Maidstone
Salary Negotiable
Love Speaking to People But Tired of Call Centres?
Our Client has been voted THE top telecommunications provider in the UK. Due to the success of our ongoing campaigns and the results we produce we are experiencing a heightened level of consumer demand, resulting in the expansion of our field sales department. Forget behind-the-scenes, this is a high-impact, high visibility opportunity where every day will be a different challenge - and it will be down to you to inspire, motivate and deliver every time. You will be motivated, confident and outgoing with good interpersonal skills. You will think like a leader with a positive attitude and be prepared to develop and grow. This opportunity covers various aspects of the marketing and field sales industry· Engaging with clients and customers, representing the brand at all times · Generating brand awareness and understanding· Producing accurate and appropriate written correspondence· Analysing campaigns effectiveness · Driving clients brand through sales and excellent customer service Working at J-K Marketing Services will provide you access to industry related events and seminars and ongoing development. If you believe you can rise to the challenge and you share our passion for excellence in all areas of field sales we would love to hear from you. Please send a cover letter with your CV to admin@jkmarketingservices.com for immediate consideration or alternatively call 01622 691 730 for an immediate appointment. All applicants must be 18+ years of age and available for full time hours.
To apply/more information:
JK Marketing Services
admin@ jkmarketingservices.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Not for profit, Charities

Bereavement Service Programme Manager

Medway
Salary equivalent to NHS Band 6
Part time, Medway based Holding On, Letting Go is a local charityproviding a grief support service for children, young people and their families in Kent. We are seeking a part time Programme Manager to lead the bereavement service. Applications are invited from people working in health, social care or the voluntary sector who have a qualification in counselling, psychotherapy or family therapy Key requirements of the post include: • Extensive experience of working therapeutically with children, adults and families who have experienced loss and bereavement • Excellent communication skills • Willingness to work flexibly including evenings and weekends • Car driver This post is currently based in Medway,2 days/week for 3 years fixed term Salary equivalent to NHS Band 6For an further details please contact Ann Hanson (Trustee) on 01634 830456 ann.hanson@nhs.net and visit our web site at www.holdingonlettinggo.org.ukF or a job description and application form please contact Vanessa Savidge on V.Savidge@nhs.net Closing date October 25th. Charity no: 1103835.
To apply/more information:
Holding on Letting go
V.Savidge@nhs.net
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

QUALIFIED, REGISTERED DENTAL NURSE

Tonbridge
Salary Negotiable
QUALIFIED, REGISTERED DENTAL NURSE REQUIRED FULL-TIME OR PART TIME FOR A MINIMUM OF ONE MONTH. PLEASE CALL FOR DETAILS 01732 363 413 AT 13 LONDON ROAD, TONBRIDGE.
To apply/more information:
George Krajewski Dental Practice
george.krajewski@sky.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Public Relations, Media, Journalism

Media sales Executive

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Media sales Executive
An expanding, national publisher with a solidreadership and customer base, requires an experienced person to join our successful, multi-media advertising team. Reporting to the Commercial Manager, you will need to be positive and creative with a flexible, hard working attitude. Experience in media sales is essential. You must have a long term approach to building customer rapport and generating new business. You will be able to work accurately under pressure to meet weekly and monthly deadlines. You need to be organized and have very good communication skills, both over the phone and face to face. Salary: Please specify salary expectation. Hours: Monday - Friday 9 am - 5 pmHolidays: 5 Weeks per annum. Benefits: Pension To apply for this role please send CV to: Debbie Broom, Administration Manager,Dog World Limited, Williamson House, Wotton Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 6LWor email: debbie.broom@ dogworld.co.uk Closing date: October 20th, 2010.
To apply/more information:
Dog World
debbie.clark@dogworld.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Sales People

London & South East
Salary Competitive
A superb opportunity has arisen to join one of the UK's leading maintenance and installers of access equipment. They have arguably the best reputation in the UK and pride themselves upon high quality and service. To build upon longstanding success they require a dynamic self motivated sales person who can help them maintain and develop the growth of the business. In return they will offer a competitive **salary** with company vehicle. The role will be to manage existing accounts as well as winning new business in installation and service. You will be mainly working in London and the South East. The role will also involve contact on a daily basis with an existing variety of customers in which it will be essential to maintain good relationships. You will be computer literate and have experience in a similar background, selling a service not just making a sale. A proven track record is essential. If you would like to be considered for this position, please forward your CV with a covering letter stating why you are suitable for this role to HR Dept Box 126, Applebarn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS.
To apply/more information:
Introland
tony@introland.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Purchasing and Stock Control Person

Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Piper Windows
piper@piperwindows.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Transport, Logistics, Aviation

LGV C (HGV2) Driver

Aylesford
Salary circa £26000 per year
Our client, a leading distributor of chilled and frozen food, is looking for LGV C (HGV2) Drivers to join their team at Aylesford on a temp to perm basis. You will be required to carry out caged and palletised deliveries to customers in the South East. Up to 20-30 drops per day. The role will invlove manual handling / handball. Start times between 0500 - 0700, between Monday to Saturday. Due to insurance, applicants must be at least 21 and no more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs). You must also be able to provide references for previous commercial driving work.
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS/AH/01

LGV C+E (HGV1) Drivers

Mid Kent
Salary £8.50+ per hour
LGV C+E (HGV1) Drivers required for various driving assignments for our Kent based clients. Work available includes Supermarkets / Store Deliveries, General Haulage, Night Trunking plus more. Varying shifts :- Weekdays , Weekends, Earlies, Lates, Nights. £8.50+ per hour. Enhanced rates for Limited Company Drivers. Insurance restrictions differ between clients. In general, aplicants must be over 25, and have more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs). Applicants must also be able to provide references for previous commercial driving experience. The Best Connection Employment Group, Cornwallis House, Pudding Lane, Maidstone, ME14 1NY. Telephone: 01622 664999
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@ thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS/AH/02

LGV C (HGV2) Drivers

Northfleet
Salary £7.50-£11.25 per hour
We are looking for LGV C (HGV2) Drivers to work at our Northfleet based client on a temporary / on going basis. You will be delivering clean laundry and collecting of used laundry from hotels. Up to 20 drops per day. Drops can include both caged delvieries as well as handball. On some routes you may be accompanied by a Porter. Start times between 0400 - 1500, over Monday to saturday. Due to insurance, applicants must be over 25, and have more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs). Applicants must also be able to provide references for previous commercial driving experience. The Best Connection Employment Group, Cornwallis House, Pudding Lane, Maidstone, ME14 1NY. Telephone: 01622 664999.
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@ thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS/AH/03

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Insolvency Act 1986
SAFETY AWARE LIMITED
(Company Number 04355281)
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Granville House, 49 The Mall, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8JW, on 15 October 2010, at 2.30 pm for the purposes provided for in Sections 99 and 101 of the Act. Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a statement of claim, to the nominated Liquidator Andrew James Hawksworth (IP No. 9582) of Augusta Kent Limited, Granville House, 49 The Mall, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8JW, not later than 12.00 noon on 14 October 2010. The proxy form and statement may be posted or sent by fax to 01795 538868. Any queries should be directed to Teresa Snow (Tel: 01795 538853, Email: Teresa.Snow@augustakent.co.uk).
Secured creditors may only vote for the balance of the debt, which will not be recovered by enforcement of the security, unless right to enforce is waived. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Augusta Kent Limited, Granville House, 49 The Mall, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8JW on 13 October 2010 and 14 October 2010 between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm. If no liquidation committee is formed, a resolution may be taken specifying the terms on which the liquidator is to be remunerated. The meeting will receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.
Dated: 27 September 2010
Thomas Heselden, Director

The Insolvency Act 1986
Canterbury County Court
No 749 of 2010
MARCUS JONATHAN WRIGHT
In Bankruptcy
Current address: 30 Alderney Way, Kennington, Ashford, Kent TN24 9LF. Previously residing at 34 Swaffer Way, Singleton, Ashford, Kent TN23 5JE or 28 Alderney Way, Kennington, Ashford, Kent TN24 9LF or Home Farm Cottage, Wormshill, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 0TT or 34 Roseberry Avenue, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 7ES. Date of Birth: 18 February 1972. Occupation: Employers liaison manager
I, Andrew James Hawksworth (IP No. 9582) of Augusta Kent Limited, Granville House, 49 The Mall, Faversham, Kent ME13 8JW, give notice that I was appointed trustee in bankruptcy of the above named individual at a meeting of creditors on 23 September 2010.
Notice is hereby given that all persons having in their possession any of the effects of the Bankrupt must deliver them to me and all debts due to the Bankrupt must also be paid to me. Creditors of the above named are required on or before 31 October 2010 to prove their debts by sending to me at the above address written statements of the amounts they claim to be due to them and, if so requested, to provide such further details or produce such documentary evidence as may appear to the trustee to be necessary. A creditor who has not proved this debt before the declaration of any dividend is not entitled to disturb, by reason that he has not participated in it, the distribution of that dividend or any other dividend declared before his debt was proved. For further details please contact Teresa Snow on Tel: 01795 538853 or teresa.snow@augustakent.co.uk
Dated: 30 September 2010
Andrew James Hawksworth, Trustee

LICENSING ACT 2003
Notice of application for Grant/Variation of a Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that Norman Davidson has applied to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council for a grant/variation of a Premises Licence in respect of premises known as Spadework Ltd, Teston Road, Offham, West Malling, Kent ME19 5NA.

The application seeks the licence in respect of the following: The sale of alcohol: Monday to Saturday 0900 – 1800; Sunday 1200 - 1800

Details of the register of record of the application can be viewed at the Tonbridge and Malling Council Offices (Licensing Department), Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling during normal office hours. Any representations from interested parties or responsible authorities must be made in writing to the Council by 04 November 2010.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction is a fine not exceeding £5,000.00

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given the Taran Omer of 24 Stone Street, Gravesend, DA11 0NP has applied to Gravesham Borough Council for the variation of live music, recorded music, performance of dance, provision of facilities for making music, dancing, entertainment of a similar description. Sunday-Wednesday 10am-2am, Thursday 10am-3am, Friday-Saturday 10am-3am for the premises Bar Liquorice situated at Harmer Street, Gravesend, DA12 2AX.

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at http://www.gravesham.gov.uk/licensing or at Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1AU tel: 01474 337334 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday. Any person wishing to submit representations to my/our application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 21st October 2010. The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm. In the case of an application for a provisional statement, please note that representations will be restricted once a statement has been issued.

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

10/03038/HOUSE **Lees Court The Green, Brenchley**
- Demolition of conservatory and single-storey side addition; Construction of single-storey side and rear extension with associated internal alterations (LB) (CA)

10/03085/LBC **Tatlingbury Oast Five Oak Green Road, Capel**
- Listed Building Consent - Replace bitumen based water resistant coating to roof of roundels; Provide drip bead around eaves of each roundels (LB)

10/03033/HOUSE **Golford Cottage Tenterden Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Forming opening into kitchen, knocking down stud wall between existing utility and bathroom and replacement/alterations to shower/bathroom (LB)

10/03039/LBC **Golford Cottage Tenterden Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Listed Building Consent - Forming opening into kitchen, knocking down stud wall between existing utility and bathroom and replacement/alterations to shower/bathroom (LB)

10/03108/HOUSE **18 Brewer Street Lamberhurst, Lamberhurst**
- Single-storey rear extension (CA)

10/02940/FUL **10 Grove Hill Gardens Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Construction of timber decking, patio and steps from basement to rear garden. Erection of summerhouse/shed (work commenced) (LB) (CA)

10/03086/TELN5 **Land At Junction Of Rusthall Road And Lower Green Road, Rusthall**
- Telecommunications Notification - Installation of a 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

10/03134/HOUSE **63 Woodside Road Rusthall, Rusthall**
- Single-storey rear extension (CA)

10/03079/HOUSE **The Old Parsonage Church Road, Sandhurst**
- Demolish existing garage and replace with attached double garage with office and log store (LB)

10/03123/FUL **Old Chapel House Bodiam Road, Sandhurst**
- Retrospective - Erection of two timber implement stores (LB)

10/02960/FUL **69B London Road Southborough, Southborough North**
- Alterations to shop front (CA)

10/03082/HOUSE **2 Birchview Victoria Road, Southborough North**
- Demolition of existing garage and car port and construction of a detached double garage (CA)

10/02995/HOUSE **35 St James Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, St James**
- Veranda; Rear garden steps up from basement (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 09 October 2010

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Highways – District of Ashford

PETT LANE, CHARING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of electrical maintenance works, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Pett Lane, Charing, on or after 11 October 2010 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside the property 'Kent Croft'. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with High Street/The Hill and Woodbrook.

The alternative route is via The Hill, A252 Cantebury Road (Charing Hill), Pilgrims Way, Toll Lane and Pett Lane.

CANTERBURY ROAD, BRABOURNE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Canterbury Road, Brabourne, on or after 27 October 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Manor Pound Lane and The Street.

The alternative route is via Manor Pound Lane, Weekes Lane, Pilgrims Way and Stock Lane.

HIGHWAYS – District of Canterbury

WESTBERE LANE, WESTBERE, CANTERBURY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of BT ducting works so that overhead wires can be removed, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Westbere Lane, Westbere, Canterbury, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside Ye Olde Yew Tree Inn.

The alternative route is via Westbere Lane, A28 Island Road and Bushy Hill Road.

It is planned the works will be carried out between the hours of 9.30 am and 4.00 pm with the road re-opened outside these hours.

ST RADIGUND'S STREET, CANTERBURY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of works to modify and improve kerbs, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on St Radigund's Street, Canterbury, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Borough/ Northgate for a distance of approximately 30 metres.

The alternative route is via Northgate, Kingsmead Road, St Stephen's Road, The Causeway, Pound Lane and St Radigund's Street.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of St Radigund's Street will be suspended between the junction with Knott's Lane and the point of closure to allow access, when the relevant signs are covered.

GUILDFORD ROAD & YORK ROAD, CANTERBURY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Guildford Road & York Road, Canterbury, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

Guildford Road will be closed between the junctions with Martyr's Field Road and Oxford Road.

The alternative route is via Zealand Road, Heaton Road and Martyr's Field Road.

York Road will be closed between the junctions with Claremont Place and Martyr's Field Road.

The alternative route is via Martyr's Field Road, St Mildred's Place, Victoria Road, Wincheap, Tudor Road and Claremont Place.

Martyr's Field Road itself will remain open, with temporary traffic lights at the junction with Guildford Road/York Road.

HIGHWAYS – District of Dover

BUNKERS HILL, DOVER - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bunkers Hill, Dover, on or after 27 October 2010 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Bunkers Hill Road and Oswald Road.

The alternative route is via via Bunkers Hill Road, St Radigund's Road and Oswald Road.

MELBOURNE AVENUE, DOVER - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Melbourne Avenue, Dover, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junction with Aspen Drive and Green Lane. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Honeywood Parkway and Green Lane.

The alternative routes for through traffic are:

Southbound via Honeywood Road, A256 Whitfield Hill, London Road, Crabble Hill, Whitfield Avenue and Green Lane

Northbound via Brookfield Avenue, Old Park Road, A256 London Road, Crabble Hill, London Road, Whitfield Hill and Honeywood Road.

The closures will be done in phases as signposted. Local access for Melbourne Avenue and the roads leading off it will be maintained whenever it is safe to do so, with the direction of approach advised by the traffic management crew on site.

It is planned that the works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 am and 7.00 pm with the road re-opened outside these hours

VARIOUS ROADS, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Dover, on or after 11 October 2010 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below.

Knell Lane, Ash will be closed between the junctions with A257 Ash By-pass and Richborough Road, on or after 15 October 2010 for up to 4 consecutive days including the weekend.

The alternative route is via A257 Ash By-pass, Cop Street, Cop Street Road and Richborough Road.

Heronden Road, Goodnestone will be closed between the junctions with Sandwich Road and Thornton Lane, on or after 18 October 2010 for up to up to 6 weekdays.

The alternative route is via Sandwich Road, Hammill Road, Selson Lane and Gore Lane.

Mongeham Road, Great Mongeham will be closed between the junctions with Northbourne Road and St Richard's Road, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 3 days.

The alternative route is via Mongeham Road, Pommeus Lane, Wingleton Lane, Ripple Road, Dover Road, Salisbury Road and St Richard's Road.

GLADSTONE ROAD, WALMER - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of sewer connection works, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Gladstone Road, Walmer, on or after 23 October 2010 for up to 9 calendar days or until the works have been completed.

Gladstone Road will be closed outside number 184. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Cornwall Road and Canada Road.

The alternative route is via Cornwall Road, A258 Dover Road and Canada Road.

MIDDLE DEAL ROAD, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Middle Deal Road, Deal on or after 17 October 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with A258 London Road and Orchard Avenue.

The alternative route is via A258 London Road and Bowling Green Lane.

QUEEN STREET & BROAD STREET, DEAL - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Queen Street & Broad Street, Deal, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 3 nights or until the works have been completed.

The roads will be closed between the junctions with Blenheim Road and Beach Street.

The alternative routes are:

For light vehicles via Queen Street, Mill Road, Park Avenue, Gilford Road, Victoria Road, Ranelagh Road, (return via Deal Castle Road), Prince of Wales Terrace and Beach Street.

For HGVs and vehicles over 13' o" tall via A258 Queen Street, London Road, Manor Road, Mill Hill, St Richard's Road, Court Road, Station Road, A258 Dover Road, The Strand, Victoria Road, Ranelagh Road (return via Deal Castle Road) and Prince of Wales Terrace.

It is planned that the works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 pm and midnight, with the roads re-opened outside these hours.

VARIOUS ROADS, DEAL - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Deal, on or after 19 October 2010 for up to 4 nights or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, dates and alternative routes are as follows.

A258 Prince of Wales Terrace and **Deal Castle Road** between the junctions with Sondes Road and Victoria Road, from 19 October 2010 for 1 night between the hours of 8.00 pm and midnight.

Ranelagh Road for its entire length, from 20 October 2010 for 1 night between the hours of 8.00 pm and midnight.

A258 Beach Street and **Prince of Wales** Terrace, from the Broad Street Roundabout to the junction with Sondes Road, from 21 October for 2 nights between the hours of 8.00 pm and midnight.

This phase will done in 2 stages, either side of the junction with South Street.

This phase will also include **South Street** itself, between the junctions with Beach Street and Middle Street.

The following roads will each be closed at their junctions with Prince of Wales Terrace as the works progress, but can be accessed from their junctions with Victoria Road - South Street, Sondes Road, Stanley Road, Clanwilliam Road and Ranelagh Road.

The One-way Traffic Order for Ranelagh Road will be suspended (except when it is closed) when the relevant signs are covered.

The alternative routes are:

For light vehicles via Gilford Road, Park Avenue, London Road, Queen Street, Broad Street and Prince of Wales Terrace.

For HGVs and vehicles over 13' o" tall, via A258 Queen Street, London Road, Manor Road, Mill Hill, St Richard's Road, Court Road, Station Road, A258 Dover Road, The Strand, Victoria Road, Ranelagh Road (return via Deal Castle Road) and Prince of Wales Terrace

NEW STREET, SANDWICH - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on New Street, Sandwich, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with St Bart's Road and No Name Street.

The alternative route is via St Bart's Road, Woodnesborough Road, Moat Sole and No Name Street.

The works will be carried out in phases to allow access to and from St George's Road and Galliard Street. Traffic will be directed to join the alternative route, with the direction of travel advised and signposted on site.

It is planned that the works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 am and 7.00 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

VARIOUS ROADS, SANDWICH - (10 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order imposing a temporary mandatory 10 mph speed limit on Various Roads, Sandwich, on or after 27 October 2010 for up to 4 weekday nights or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected are:

A256 Sandwich Road, Worth
A256 Sandwich Bypass, Sandwich
A258 Deal Road, Sandwich

This affects each of the above roads from the roundabout where they meet, for a distance of approximately 100 metres.

The 10 mph speed restriction applies within roadworks when the relevant signs and temporary traffic signals are on site.

The speed limit will only be implemented at such times when it is not safe to work without this restriction, and will be operated by means of a "convoy system" whilst the roadworks are taking place.

This restriction has been introduced for the safety of the public and workforce whilst essential carriageway repairs and resurfacing are carried out on behalf of Kent Highway Services.

It is anticipated the works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 pm and 5.00 am.

VARIOUS ROADS, STAPLE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Staple, on or after 29 October 2010 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, extent of closure and alternative routes are as shown below.

Mill Road, Staple will be closed from 29 October 2010 for up to 2 days

The closure is between the junctions with Buckland Lane and Barnsole Road.

Mill Lane, Staple will also be closed.

The alternative route is via Mill Road, School Lane, Lower Road and Barnsole Lane.

Chalk Pit Hill & Chalk Pit Lane, Staple will be closed on or after 2 November 2010 for up to 2 days

The closure is between the junctions with Barnsole Road and Sandwich Road.

The alternative route is via Barnsole Road, Fleming Road, Drainless Road, Hammill Road and Sandwich Road.

It is planned that these works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 am and 7.00 pm, with the roads re-opened outside these hours.

THE RISE, KINGSDOWN - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of works to install a new sewer connection, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Rise, Kingsdown, on or after 25 October 2010 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside the property 'Northdown'. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Alexandra Road and St James' Road. The junction with Glen Road is unaffected.

The alternative route is via Chalk Hill Road and Upper Street.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

CHURCH ROAD, HARTLEY - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Church Road, Hartley between Manor Lane and Grange Road.

The Order will become effective on 11th October 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 2 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: St Johns Lane, Ash Road and Church Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a sewer connection.

HIGHWAYS – District of Shepway

SALTER'S LANE, BROOKLAND & SHORT LANE, SNARGATE- (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of bridge reconstruction works, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Salter's Lane, Brookland and Short Lane, Snargate.

This Order comes into effect on or after 11 October 2010 for up to 10 weeks or until the works have been completed.

Salter's Lane, Brookland will be closed either side of Salters Lane Bridge. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Harvey Road and West Place.

The alternative route is via Harvey Road, King Street, Rectory Road and Rye Road.

Short Lane, Snargate will be closed either side of Lansell Cottage Bridge. There will be no access for though traffic for its entire length.

The alternative route is via B2080 Rhee Wall Road and Cuckolds Lane.

CHERITON PLACE, FOLKESTONE- (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Cheriton Place, Folkestone, on or after 11 October 2010 for up to 10 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Bouverie Road West and Sandgate Road.

The alternative route is via Bouverie Road West, Castle Hill Avenue and Sandgate Road.

BURMARSH ROAD, DYMCHURCH & BOTOLPH'S BRIDGE ROAD, HYTHE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of level crossing repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Burmarsh Road, Dymchurch and Botolph's Bridge Road, Hythe on or after 11 October 2010 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

Burmarsh Road, Dymchurch will be closed at the level crossing, on or after 11 October 2010 for up to 3 days.

There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Green Meadows and Thorndike Road. The alternative route is via A259 Hythe Road, Dymchurch Road, Botolph's Bridge Road, Lower Wall Road, Donkey Street and Burmarsh Road.

Botolph's Bridge Road, Hythe will be closed at the level crossing on or after 18 October 2010 for up to 5 days.

There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Dymchurch Road and Lower Wall Road. The alternative route is via Burmarsh Road, Hythe.

HIGHWAYS – District of Thanet

ST JAMES'S TERRACE & ST DAVID'S CLOSE, BIRCHINGTON - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on St James's Terrace & St David's Close, Birchington, on or after 27 October 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

St James's Terrace will be closed for its entire length. As a result, there will be no access to St David's Close. There is no alternative route as both roads are cul-de-sacs.

Every effort will be made to maintain access for residents whenever it is safe to do so, but there will be times when this is not possible.

It is planned the works will be carried out between the hours of 8.00 am and 5.00 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

YARDLEY PARK ROAD, TONBRIDGE - (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Yardley Park Road between A227 Shipbourne Road and The Haydens on or after Sunday 31st October 2010 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via A227 Shipbourne Road, High Street, Bordyke, A26 Hadlow Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential footway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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There's variations on Jazz theme from Toyota and Hyundai

By **STEVE LOADER**

SUPERCARS and new technology will take centre stage at the Paris Motor Show until October 17, but there is a real world battle in the wings.

It's about challenging the impressive Honda Jazz (main picture) in the supermini MPV segment, which has tripled in size across Europe in just eight years.

The second generation version of this marvel of packaging, complete with so-called 'magic seats' that make it so effective within its modest dimensions, is proving even more popular in the UK now that it is built here at the Japanese marque's Swindon plant.

And Honda has also unveiled a new petrol-electric version to cut CO2 emissions and fuel consumption – probably the worst kept secret in the car industry after the maker ruled out launching a diesel Jazz.

The hybrid should average in the mid-60s for mpg, but Honda will be miffed on the quiet that it has not been able to get emissions below the 100g/km of CO2 that would qualify for zero road tax.

As it is, the new Jazz will be exempt anyway in year one and incur just £20 annually thereafter.

It arrives early next year when it will also come up against an all-new rival from Toyota.

The world's number one carmaker has obviously tired of Honda grabbing the plaudits and sales at this end of the market and created a four-metre-long spaceship, claimed to offer cabin and luggage space to rival a family hatchback. Not only that, but the new Toyota Verso-S (left) has 60/40 split rear seats that fold flat with one touch.

Toyota claims it is simply returning to a segment it invented in 1999 with the Yaris Verso, but that car was an abomination to look at while the Verso-S looks more like the Honda Jazz – classy yet functional.

The newcomer may be shortest car in its class, but it has a long wheelbase and short front and rear overhangs and the glassy cabin can be enhanced by an optional panoramic sunroof.

Toyota would never admit it, but the car's designers will have also measured its excellent internal versatility against the Jazz, while economy comes from one of the most economical petrol engines around, the 98bhp 1.33-litre unit out of the Yaris supermini which will average well over 51.4mpg – don't rule out other options later though.

Also at Paris, Toyota has unveiled more choice and luxury for its IQ city car, which continues to be sold as a premium choice urban runabout rather than a bargain basement baby – 2011 model IQ prices start from £10,158.

Back with the supermini MPVs though, and Hyundai has given both Honda and Toyota food for thought with its all-new ix20 rival (above right), closely related to the Venga from Hyundai's sister brand, Kia.

This new Hyundai arrives next month and looks like another quantum leap of style, quality and dynamics from the ambitious Korean brand, to go with its long-running keen pricing and five-year warranty package. Watch for fireworks in this part of the marketplace.

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2010 (59) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles £15,995
2009 (59) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, BLACK, 750 miles £14,995
2009 (58) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, STEPPE BROWN, 8000 miles £13,995
2010 (59) FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1400 miles £11,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £11,495
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles £10,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £10,995
2009 (09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £10,995
2010 (60) CITROEN NEMO 8V HDI TURBO MPV AUTO, RED, 100 miles £10,495
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles £9,995
2009 (59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles £9,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 miles £9,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 2000 miles £9,995
2009 (09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £9,495
2009 (09) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles £8,995
2009 (59) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 1200 miles £7,995

CONVERTIBLES CABRIOLETS

2009 (09) MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles £29,950
2008 (57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 5000 miles £12,995
2008 (08) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles £10,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles £9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles £8,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £8,995
2006 (06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPORT CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £8,995
2006 (06) PEUGEOT 307 S COUPE CABRIOLET COUPE AUTO, RED, 21000 miles £8,995
2006 (06) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £8,495
2005 (05) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 miles £7,495
2005 (55) VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT 16V TWINPORT MANUAL COUPE, BLACK, 26000 miles £6,995

FIESTA

2006 (56) FORD FIESTA ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 1600 miles, yes really under 2000 miles from new £6,995
2007 (07) FORD FIESTA STYLE CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles £5,995

FOCUS HATCH & SALOON

2009 (09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £10,995
2008 (58) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles £9,995
2008 (57) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 miles £8,995
2008 (08) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £7,495
2007 (07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles £7,495
2007 (07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 14000 miles £7,495
2005 (55) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 27000 miles £6,495

FOCUS ESTATES

2007 (07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £7,995
2006 (56) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles £7,495
2006 (56) FORD FOCUS LX 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £5,995

RENAULT SCENIC

2010 (59) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles £15,995
2007 (07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, RED, 13000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £8,995
2008 (08) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £8,995
2008 (08) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, RED, 6000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles £8,495
2008 (57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 miles £7,995
2008 (57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 15000 miles £7,495
2006 (56) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 miles £6,995
2004 (54) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE 16V MPV AUTO, BLACK, 27000 miles £5,495

RENAULT

2008 (57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 5000 miles £12,995
2008 (08) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles £10,995
2008 (08) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, GREEN, 15000 miles £9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles £9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles £8,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £8,995
2006 (06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles £8,995
2008 (58) RENAULT MEGANE EXPRESSION VVT 111 ESTATE CAR ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 600 miles £8,995
2008 (58) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 1500 miles £8,995
2008 (08) RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles £7,995
2008 (58) RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 miles £7,995
2006 (56) RENAULT LAGUNA EXPRESSION SPORT TOURER 16V ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles £7,995
2005 (05) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 miles £7,495
2006 (06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 ESTATE AUTO, GOLD, 17000 miles £6,995
2007 (07) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, RED, 13000 miles £5,995
2005 (05) RENAULT MODUS PRIVILEGE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 39000 miles £4,995

CHEVROLET

2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £6,995
2009 (58) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles £6,995
2009 (09) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles £6,995
2008 (58) CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 miles £6,995
2009 (09) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1200 miles £6,495
2008 (08) CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £5,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles £5,995
2006 (56) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles £5,495
2008 (57) CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles £5,495
2007 (07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £4,995
2007 (07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 20000 miles £4,995
2008 (58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE PLUS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 3000 miles £4,995
2007 (07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles £4,995

HYUNDAI

2008 (08) HYUNDAI COUPE SIII COUPE AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles £11,995
2007 (56) HYUNDAI COUPE SIII COUPE AUTO, RED, 4000 miles £9,995
2008 (58) HYUNDAI GETZ GSI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) HYUNDAI ACCENT ATLANTIC LIMITED EDITION 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £5,995
2006 (56) HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 9000 miles £5,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 24000 miles £5,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles £5,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles £5,995
2007 (07) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £5,495
2007 (57) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 9000 miles £5,495

KIA

2009 (09) KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ORANGE, 2000 miles £7,995
2008 (58) KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles £7,495

DAIHATSU

2008 (08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles £7,995
2008 (08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £7,495
2007 (07) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles £6,995
2007 (07) DAIHATSU SIRION 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles £6,995

BMW

2005 (55) BMW 3 SERIES 320D ES TOURING 6SPD MANUAL TD ESTATE, GREY, 5100 miles £12,995

FIAT

2006 (56) FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles £5,995
2007 (56) FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 25000 miles £4,995

FUSION

2010 (59) FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1400 miles £11,995
2008 (08) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles £8,995
2008 (08) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 3000 miles £8,995
2008 (08) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles £8,995
2009 (58) FORD FUSION STYLE CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles £6,995

CITROEN

2010 (60) CITROEN NEMO 8V HDI TURBO MPV AUTO, RED, 100 miles £10,495
2008 (58) CITROEN C4 SX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1800 miles £9,995
2002 (02) CITROEN SAXO DESIRE 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 54000 miles £2,995

MONDEO

2006 (56) FORD MONDEO LX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 24000 miles £6,995

CORSA

2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £11,495
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles £10,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles £9,995
2009 (09) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles £8,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,495
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 2000 miles £8,495
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles £8,495
2007 (57) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 6000 miles £7,495
2006 (56) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAUVE, 19000 miles £6,495
2005 (05) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN CDTI 16V 5DR TD HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 65000 miles £4,495

MAZDA

2008 (58) MAZDA 5 5 TS2 MPV AUTO, RED, 12000 miles £12,995
2008 (58) MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 miles £10,995
2007 (57) MAZDA 3 3 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles £9,995
2006 (56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles £8,995
2006 (56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 21000 miles £8,995
2007 (56) MAZDA 2 2 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles £5,995

SUZUKI

2009 (59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles £9,995
2007 (07) SUZUKI IGNIS GL VVT-S 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 9000 miles £5,995

TOYOTA

2007 (07) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLUE, 16000 miles £13,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, GREY, 16000 miles £13,995
2007 (6) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £13,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £9,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, RED, 25000 miles £9,995
2007 (56) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 COLOUR COLLECTION VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles £9,995
2007 (56) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, IXION BLUE, 13000 miles £9,995
2008 (08) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, VENETIAN SILVER, 14000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA AURIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £8,995
2008 (58) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles £8,995
2006 (56) TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 21000 miles £6,995
2005 (55) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles £6,995
2004 (54) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £6,995
2005 (05) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £6,995
2004 (04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 6000 miles £6,295
2004 (04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles £5,995

NISSAN

2009 (09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 11000 miles £14,995
2007 (07) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 21000 miles £10,995
2007 (07) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA 5DR HATCH AUTO, FIRED IRON, 19000 miles £10,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 miles £9,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 2000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £9,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPORT CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £8,995
2009 (09) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles £8,995
2008 (08) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, RED, 14000 miles £8,495
2006 (06) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £8,495
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 18000 miles £7,495
2006 (56) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £6,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BEIGEBUFF, 8000 miles £6,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 27000 miles £5,995
2004 (54) NISSAN ALMERA TINO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 31000 miles £4,995
2004 (04) NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, ARUBA BLUE, 12000 miles £4,995
2002 (52) NISSAN MICRA S 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 47000 miles £3,495

ASTRA HATCHBACKS

2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE CDTI 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 11000 miles £10,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 14000 miles £9,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 HATCH AUTO, SILVER, 9000 miles £8,495
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £7,995
2008 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 14000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles £7,495
2008 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 10000 miles £6,995
2008 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 2000 miles £6,995
2004 (54) VAUXHALL ASTRA CLUB 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 31000 miles £4,995

ASTRA ESTATES

2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, ECLIPSE BLACK, 5000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, PANNACOTTA, 15000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £7,995
2008 (08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles £7,995
2008 (08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, SILVER, 14000 miles £7,495
2006 (56) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 13000 miles £6,495
2006 (56) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles £5,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £5,995

ZAFIRA MERIVA & AGILA

2009 (59) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, BLACK, 750 miles £14,995
2009 (09) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles £13,495
2010 (10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £10,995
2009 (59) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, GOLD, 2000 miles £9,995
2009 (59) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £9,995
2009 (09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £9,495
2006 (56) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 16000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles £8,995
2008 (08) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLACK, 10000 miles £8,995
2008 (08) VAUXHALL AGILA CLUB MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, TURQUOISE, 7000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £6,995
2006 (56) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles £6,495
2008 (58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles £5,995

CHRYSLER

2007 (57) CHRYSLER PT CRUISER LIMITED 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 13000 miles £6,995

PEUGEOT

2009 (09) PEUGEOT 308 SW S ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles £9,995
2006 (06) PEUGEOT 307 S COUPE CABRIOLET COUPE AUTO, RED, 21000 miles £8,995
2008 (08) PEUGEOT 207 SPORT 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles £8,995
2007 (57) PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 2000 miles £7,995
2009 (59) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 1200 miles £7,995
2006 (56) PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £6,995
2006 (56) PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles £6,995
2007 (07) PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 17000 miles £6,995
2007 (07) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 2-TRONIC 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles £5,995

HONDA

2007 (07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, GREY, 24000 miles £17,995
2007 (07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 19000 miles £15,995
2007 (07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, GREY, 11000 miles £15,995
2007 (07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SPORT ESTATE AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles £13,995
2006 (06) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 26000 miles £11,995
2009 (58) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £10,995
2009 (09) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles £10,995
2007 (07) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 8000 miles £8,995
2006 (56) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles £7,995
2004 (04) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 5000 miles £5,995

MERCEDES

2009 (09) MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles £29,950
2008 (57) MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180 KOMPRESSOR SE SPORTS COUPE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 18000 miles £15,995
2009 (58) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, STEPPE BROWN, 8000 miles £13,995
2007 (57) MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180K AVANTGARDE SE SALOON AUTO, CUBANITE SILVER, 23000 miles £13,995
2006 (56) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 ELEGANCE SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles £11,495
2007 (07) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles £10,995
2006 (56) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 ELEGANCE SE LWB 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 13000 miles £10,995
2007 (07) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE SWB HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 20000 miles £9,495
2003 (52) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A140 CLASSIC SE HATCH AUTO, METALLIC GREY, 25000 miles £5,995
2003 (53) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A140 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 46000 miles £5,495

VOLKSWAGEN

2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH FSI 115 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £11,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles £9,995
2008 (08) VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH (80BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 3000 miles £9,495
2008 (58) VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH 3DR AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles £8,995
2007 (07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (80BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 6000 miles £7,995
2007 (9) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles £7,495
2007 (07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 22000 miles £7,495
2005 (05) VOLKSWAGEN POLO TWIST 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 30000 miles £6,495
2003 (53) VOLKSWAGEN POLO TWIST 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 41000 miles £4,695
2001 (Y) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH, RED, 63000 miles £3,995

DIESEL AUTOMATICS

2009 (09) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles £13,495
2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE CDTI 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 11000 miles £10,995

MORRIS'S MANUAL CARS

2005 (55) BMW 3 SERIES 320D ES TOURING 6SPD MANUAL TD ESTATE, GREY, 5100 miles £12,995
2006 (M) SAAB 9-3 DTH VECTOR SPORT TD ESTATE, GREY, 26000 miles £9,995
2006 (56) VAUXHALL VECTRA VVT EXCLUSIV 5DR HATCH, SAPPHIRE BLACK, 26000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL MERIVA ENERGY CDTI TD MPV, BLACK, 24000 miles £6,995
2005 (55) VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT 16V TWINPORT MANUAL COUPE, BLACK, 26000 miles £6,995
2004 (04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles £5,995
2007 (07) FIAT PANDA DYNAMIC 5DR HATCH, GREY, 8000 miles £4,995
2008 (08) RENAULT TWINGO DYNAMIQUE 3DR HATCH, ORANGE, 35000 miles £4,995
2007 (07) KIA PICANTO LS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 17000 miles £4,995
2008 (58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE PLUS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 3000 miles £4,995
2004 (04) PEUGEOT 206 SE 5DR HATCH, MOONSTONE SILVER, 36000 miles £4,295
2001 (Y) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH, RED, 63000 miles £3,995
2005 (05) VAUXHALL AGILA ENJOY 16V TWINPORT MPV, GOLD, 20000 miles £3,995
2005 (54) VAUXHALL CORSA LIFE 12V TWINPORT 3DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles £3,995

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AGILA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2009	09	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlantis blue	9,350	8,995
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Lemon grass	1,350	9,495

ASTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	55	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	55,800	5,995
2006	06	Astra Active Estate	1.6	5	Silver lightening	18,950	6,150
2006	06	Astra Active	1.6	5	Ultra blue	37,000	5,995
2006	56	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Metro blue	25,000	6,995
2007	07	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Flame red	42,700	6,495
2007	07	Astra Design	1.8	5	Silver lightening	45,000	6,495
2007	07	Astra Energy	1.4	5	Black sapphire	43,250	6,495
2007	57	Astra Sxi Sports hatch CDTi	1.7D	3	Star silver	40,675	7,995
2008	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	24,300	8,495
2008	58	Astra Breeze	1.4	5	Silver lightening	10,700	7,995
2009	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	14,100	9,495
2009	59	Astra Sports Twin top	1.8	2	Air blue	3,320	14,995
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	4,960	8,995
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	3,990	8,995
2009	59	New Astra Sri	1.6	5	Power red	5,340	13,995
2009	59	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Technical grey	7,050	10,995
2009	59	Astra Active Sports hatch	1.4	3	Sovereign silver	8,040	9,995
2009	59	Astra Life MTA	1.6	5	Sovereign silver	10,270	8,995
2002	02*	Astra Expression	1.6	5	Red	64,725	2,495
2002	52*	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Ultra blue	59,160	2,995
2003	53*	Astra Club	1.6	5	Star silver	52,250	2,995

CORSA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2005	55	Corsa Active	1.2	3	Metro blue	35,275	4,650
2007	57	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Flame red	49,370	6,495
2008	57	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Silver lightening	15,800	7,495
2008	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3	3	Star silver	24,590	7,995
2008	58	Corsa Club Auto	1.4	5	Star silver	24,060	8,995
2009	09	Corsa Active	1.0	5	Star silver	6,270	7,995
2009	59	Corsa Life CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	9,950	8,495
2009	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Silver lightening	800	9,495
2009	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Metro blue	5,990	8,995
2009	59	Corsa Active	1.2	3	Star silver	7,180	9,395
2010	10	Corsa Energy	1.2	3	Black sapphire	2,340	9,995
2002	02*	Corsa SE	1.0	3	Flamer red	49,065	2,995
2008	08*	Corsa Breeze Plus	1.3	3	Silver lightening	60,000	6,295

INSIGNIA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2009	59	Insignia Elite CDTi Nav	2.0	5	Sovereign silver	6,550	19,995
2009	59	Insignia CDTi ECO Exclusive	2.0	5	Silver lake	7,350	14,995

MERIVA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	56	Meriva Energy MTA	1.6	5	Lancelot	52,500	5,695
2008	58	Meriva Design X pack	1.8	5	Air blue	7,600	8,995
2003	53*	Meriva Design MTA	1.8	5	Silver lightening	50,100	3,695

VECTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	56	Vectra Design	1.8	5	Metro blue	33,180	6,495
2007	57	Vectra Sri CDTi	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	58,650	7,275
2001	51*	Vectra Sxi	1.8	4	Black sapphire	70,215	1,995

ZAFIRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2007	57	Zafira Energy	1.6	5	Silver lightening	24,150	7,695
2009	59	Zafira Active Plus	1.8	5	Ultra blue	5,670	12,995
2003	03*	Zafira Comfort	1.8	5	Ultra blue	37,875	3,795

DUE SOON

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2007	57	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Star silver	9,290	6,995
2007	07	Astra Energy	1.4	5	Black sapphire	43,250	6,495
2008	58	Astra Elite	1.6	5	Star silver	13,000	8,995
2010	59	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Arden blue	5,660	17,995
2008	08	Vectra Exclusive CDTi	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	16,100	8,495

COMMERCIALS

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2007	57*	Vivaro LWB Sportive	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	51,000	£9,495+VAT
2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	15,925	£9,995+VAT
2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	Del	£10,995+VAT

PRE-REGISTERED COMMERCIALS (ALL DELIVERY MILEAGE ONLY)

2010	10	Combo van	1.2	5	Glacier white	8,995+VAT
2010	10	Astravan Sportive CDTi	1.7D	3	Sovereign silver	10,995+VAT
2010	10	Vivaro Sportive	2.0D	5	Star silver	14,995+VAT

OTHER MAKES

2005	55*	Suzuki Alto	1.0	5	Red	19,265	2,995
2000	W*	Daewoo Matiz SE	800cc	5	Blue	48,530	1,695
2001	51*	Daewoo Lanos SX Auto	1.6	3	Blue	41,000	1,995
2002	52*	Rover 25i L Auto	1.6	5	Metallic Black	77,600	2,695
2003	03*	VW Golf GTi	2.0	5	Silver	56,125	4,250
2003	03*	Nissan Almera SXE TD	2.2	5	Silver	78,870	3,695
2006	06*	Mitsubushi Lancer	1.6	4	Grey	52,825	4,495
2004	04*	Toyota Corolla	1.4	3	Metallic red	68,540	3,995
2002	02*	MG ZR	1.4	3	Red	70,250	2,750
2004	04*	Fiat Punto Active Sport	1.2	3	Yellow	66,000	2,995

*Non Network Q

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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

French people movers get a stylish upgrade

TWO of the UK's favourite MPVs have been upgraded.

From this month, the five and seven-seat Citroën C4 Picasso models have revised styling plus equipment and engine upgrades.

Visually, the most distinctive change is an optional black finish for the roof and front pillars, to create a floating roof effect and dramatically lowering the profiles of the cars.

Under the metal the range also offers 'e-HDi micro-hybrid technology'; essentially a fuel and emissions saving automatic stop/start system for town driving or in jams, with an alternator that recovers energy during braking.

Citroën says the innovative gadgetry can lower fuel consumption and CO2 emissions by as much as 15 per cent.

The French marque has gone to great lengths to upgrade the cabins to the sort of levels already seen on the more recently launched C3 Picasso, in order to compete in an increasingly tough MPV market.

Gloves off for Nissan's tough guy

IN A sector of pseudo off-roaders or sports utility vehicles (SUVs), the Nissan X-Trail always stood out as one that could handle itself a bit when the going got tough.

Now that the Japanese brand's own Qashqai crossover model has flushed out what most SUV customers really wanted, the X-Trail has been re-positioned to cater for those who really do need an affordable 4x4.

A stripped back range of just two models now starts at a competitive £23,995 and reduced emissions mean lower road and benefit-in-kind taxes.

The highly practical squared-off shape with high-lift tailgate – a boon in the rain when loading or when you need a weather-cheating grandstand – has also had a makeover inside and out, with the cabin uplift designed to attack the likes of the Honda CR-V and Land Rover Freelander.

The Tekna flagship looks like the one to go for; £27,495 brings a panoramic sunroof, leather seats and an infotainment package including hard disk sat-nav with music server and USB port, rear-view camera, and premium nine-speaker Bose sound system.

The powertrain options are a 171bhp 2.0-litre diesel manual or 148bhp auto of the same capacity.

Hyundai revises 'baby' tax beater

HYUNDAI has given a makeover to its hugely popular i10 city car – the model that surged ahead during the Government Scrappage scheme.

The i10's appeal is that a compact and slightly gawky five-door body clothes a car that is actually spacious, good to drive and cheap to run.

The key feature of the revisions is a new 1.0-litre engine with road tax exempt CO2 emissions of just 99 g/km.

The revised i10 goes on sale early next year.

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Sports Cars	05 05 Ford StreetKa £5,295	10 10 Peugeot RCZ £22,000		
4x4/Est/MPV	04 04 Ford C-Max £4,300	10 59 Mazda CX-7 £21,990		
Low CO_2	05 55 Citroen C3 £4,299	10 10 Renault Megane 1.5 dCi £15,590		

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by STEVELOADER

Some eyesores on latest Scenic route

RENAULT would love us to believe that buying its Scenic compact MPV implies every journey will be a sensory pleasure – the 'scenic route'.

And much of the third generation car launched last year upholds that but, as so often with the French marque, some scenery jars on the senses.

The cabin on the five-seat version tested is spacious, but enhanced by a big glazed area and, on our upmarket 2.0 dCi 160 Dynamique 'TomTom' model (£21,620), a sunroof to the front and a glassy rear roof.

However, the dashboard is one of the ugliest you will see and cabin materials are generally off the pace.

A long hood over an uninspiring and penny-pinching centre-mounted digital display also fails to prevent some reflection on the screen of a much-vaunted, factory-fitted sat nav, adding £350 to the price.

This system, developed with aftermarket sat nav leader TomTom to provide an affordable alternative to often inferior units fitted by carmakers, is a brave effort, but the screen is let down by a clunky and unnecessary interface on the centre console – buy a portable TomTom and save a couple of hundred quid.

The sound system – apart from the excellent steering column mounted controls – is also typically and needlessly complicated; surely, in this day and age, you should not have to refer to the manual just to perform the simplest tasks?

Fortunately though – as with the occasional eyesore on a long journey – such niggles should disappear with long-term ownership and familiarity, leaving a better overall view of the latest Scenic.

For the car looks good for an MPV, has a wide tailgate for easy loading and the three rear seats fold and slide easily, although I did receive some earache about the comfort levels.

Three 12v sockets are arranged to the front, middle and rear and a large sliding centre console and four underfloor lockers add to the huge amount of stowage.

The refined 160bhp 2.0 diesel is also a delight, though using its ample power for sporty driving reveals a suspension better suited to a fully laden MPV than supermini antics.

Prices start from £13,595 and seven-seat Grand Scenic versions are available for a £1,500 premium.

DrivingPortfolio

RENAULT SCENIC 2.0 DCI 160 DYNAMIQUE 'TOM TOM' (£21,620)

Driving appeal	★★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★
Running costs	★★★★
Reliability	★★★
How Green?	★★★
Road tax	£180/year (£250 year one)
Best rival	Citroën C4 Picasso

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*Actual model shown is 1.6L Acenta with optional Sport pack priced at £14,095. Model shown has optional metallic paint worth £400 including VAT. NIssan Motor (GB) Ltd The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9YS. Pre-production fuel consumption figures for Juke range are: URBAN 44.8-27.7mpg/6.3-10.2L/100km - EXTRA URBAN 64.1-47.0-6.0L/100km - COMBINED 55.3-37.2mpg/5.1-7.6L/100km. CO2 emissions are: 134-175g/km. Information correct at time of going to print. Official figures available at www.nissan.co.uk from August 2010.

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Fuel consumption in MPG(l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.9 (10.9) - 57.6 (4.9), Extra Urban 39.8 (7.1) - 74.3 (3.8), Combined 33.2 (8.5) - 67.3 (4.2) CO_2 Emissions 225 -110 g/km.

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03 Plate Skoda Octavia 1.8 T Elegance 5-Dr Hatchback
Finished in Admiral Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 12,403 miles. Was £4,995. **Now £4,495***

09 Plate Skoda Fabia 1.2 Estate
Saturn Grey, Top of the Range, 10,700 miles. £9,495*

58 Plate Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback
Finished in Dynamic Blue with a Black Cloth interior, 13,200 miles. £6,995*

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06 Plate Skoda Fabia 1.9 TDI Elegance Estate
Red with Black Cloth interior, FSH, 51,768 miles. £6,495*

54 Skoda Fabia 1.4 TDI PD Ambiente 5-Dr Hatchback
Finished in Beige Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 52,174 miles. £4,995

54 Plate Skoda Fabia 1.2 HTP (54 BHP) Classic 5-Dr Hatchback
Finished in Dynamic Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 48,500 miles. £3,995*

03 Skoda Fabia 1.2 HTP (54 BHP) Classic 5-Dr Hatchback
Finished in Dynamic Blue with a Black Cloth interior, 81,500 miles. £2995*

58 Plate Skoda Roomster 1.9 TDI
Silver with Black Cloth interior, 11,000 miles. £10,795*

58 Plate Skoda Roomster Scout 1.6 16v, Automatic
Corrida Red, Top of The Range, 14,500 miles. £9,495*

Other Makes

2008 Mitsubishi Lancer 1.6 Equippe 4-Door Saloon
Finished in Metallic Gunmetal Grey, Manual, 21,800 miles. £7,995*

2004 Volkswagen Touran 1.6 S (100BHP) 7-Seat
Finished in Blue Metallic with a Grey Cloth interior, 50,500 miles. £6,995 **Now £6,495***

07 Plate SEAT Ibiza 1.4 16v Style
Silver, FSH, I owner from new, 16,190 miles. £6,495*

2006 Fiat Punto 1.2 Active 5-Door Hatchback
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2004 Citroen C3 Pluriel 1.6 2-Door Cabriolet Jan 2004
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2002 Daewoo Tacuma 1.6 SE 5-Door MPV
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05 Plate Rover 23 GSI 1.4 3dr
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*Correct at time of going to press.

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Pumped up Mazda needs

DrivingReview

by STEVE LOADER
CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Mazda3 MPS

THERE'S an awful lot of motor industry waffle at present about 'thinking outside the box', but what about thinking inside of it? In the cabin, to be precise.

The car that has me ranting is the Mazda3 MPS, a truly excellent performance spin-off from Mazda's impressive VW Golf rival.

However, creating a sporting version of an everyday car calls for a magic touch that went walkabout on this occasion; the current Mazda3 is a far tidier design than its predecessor, but has been made to look awkward in hot hatch guise with clumsy bodykit, black scoop/snout and massive boot spoiler grafts.

Beefy 18-inch alloys and a pair of big exhausts rescue it somewhat, and it seems good value overall at £22,595, but it is the cabin that finally makes one lose heart.

This is a mix of quality and tackiness, with an attractive soft touch dashboard finish jarring against hard black and alloy-effect plastic sections that will surely scratch and fade as time goes on.

And the cabin is generally a pretty gloomy place to be for a hot hatchback, though this tends to be an industry-wide malaise; I've railed before about one of the most eye-catching hot hatches out, the Seat Leon Cupra, being spoilt by an interior that makes you feel like slashing your wrists.

Turning gratefully to MPS plus points, I approve of the comfortable half-leather sports seats in the front, which deliver excellent lateral support for hard cornering, though the dotty red patterns are not easy on the eye.

The car also benefits from lots of stowage; when driving a car designed to be thrown about a bit you don't really want bits of detritus joining in.

And the MPS comes with much extra kit to balance that underwhelming cabin; the list includes heated front seats, sat nav, six-CD multi-changer and a truly awesome 10-speaker Bose sound system and aux MP3 plug-in – but no USB for the ubiquitous iPod – rear parking sensors, and sporty aluminium foot pedals.

Out on the road you also realise that this is, like its predecessor, one of the most underrated hot hatches around; the turbocharged 256bhp 2.3-litre almost gets all its front-wheel drive power to the road surface without the

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Motability

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Chevrolet Range: Urban 42.8 (6.6)-21.5 (13.1), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2)-39.7 (7.1), Combined 55.4 (5.1)-30.3 (9.3), CO2 Emissions 119-234 g/km.

a material pep up

steering wheel bucking around in the driver's hands – no mean feat at this level and far better than some lesser performers.

I read the car should hit 60mph in seconds, but was not in the least interested in proving it. You would wonder what the car might do in the wet and when the tyres have lost half their tread – and that won't take long.

Nevertheless, the fact the Mazda is not a complete box of frogs is impressive and due to a limited slip differential and electronic gizmos; in partnership with a slick six-speed gearbox, nicely weighted steering and well-judged chassis set-up, it makes for hot hatch harmony.

It really tucks in on the corners and while the ride feels stiff, it goes with the territory and I've had worse earache from those in the back.

Like most hot hatchbacks nowadays though you sense that very little of all this counts for much except towards glamorising lesser models in the same line-up, which have to make do with less sexy attributes like low running costs and emissions.

The MPS doesn't really bear close scrutiny on that front: you'll be lucky to average 30mpg, high CO2 output incurs a swingeing £550 road tax in the first year, and insurers still don't like hot hatches – it's group 34.

It set me thinking about Peugeot's eye-catching RCZ coupé, which can be bought for similar money, has good handling and road manners and is surprisingly practical and far cheaper to run – and it makes you look like a millionaire rather than an ageing boy racer (the only people who can afford hot hatches nowadays).

DrivingPortfolio

MAZDA3 MPS £22,595

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green?	★
Road tax	£245/year (£550 in year one)
Best rival	VW Golf GTI

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: the sloppy looking interior finishes and design

NOT SURE: the buyers are out there anymore for a gas guzzling high emission hot hatch

REALLY LIKE: how the Mazda engineers can deliver so much power in a reasonably controlled way

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ALFA ROMEO

159, 2.4 JTDM LUSSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDM 16v LUSSO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, alfa red, 70000 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDM 16v LUSSO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, alfa red, 70000 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, 2.4 JTDM LUSSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, 1.8 MPI TURISMO (0% FINANCE AVAILABLE ON THIS CAR), 2007, abs brakes trip computer twin airbags remote central locking quickclear windscreen body coloured bumpers, black & red leather, 30061 miles, £8999, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

AUDI

A4, TDI TDV S Line Multitronic, 2008, grey metallic, 25000 miles, £17000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A4, TDi TDV S Line Multitronic, 2008, blue, 37661 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A4, TDI 130 SE (6), 2004, blue, 25540 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9 TDi SE Multitronic, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission climate control diesel electric windows front fog lightsdeactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column front armrest lumbar support 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, grey, 53000 miles, £8500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A4, 2.0 TDi S LINE, 2005, abs brakes diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking, dolphin grey, 82000 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A4, 2.7 TDi SE Multitronic, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player diesel traction control remote central locking remote audio controls, quartz grey, 22000 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A4, TDi TDV S Line, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking, blue, 37661 miles, £16000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A4, SE, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control electric windows traction control trip computer 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, silver, 43000 miles, £6000, Tunbridge Wells, 08448 759297 (TRADE)

BMW

1 SERIES, 116i ES, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, tbc, 11500 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116 ES, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint remote audio controls, red- metallic, 22000 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, SE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests, red, 16984 miles, £11500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player climate control drivers airbag electric windows adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests, red, 16984 miles, £11500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 120d Sport, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control front parking sensors, black, 44450 miles, £10800, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 120d SE Steptronic Auto, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black, 36000 miles, £13500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i SE, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, titanium silver, 28316 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 118D M Sport, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black metallic, 55000 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116 SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass trip computer twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls body coloured bumpers rear headrests height adj drivers seat, black, 11421 miles, £11500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i SE, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue metallic, 59000 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CITROEN

C3, 5, central locking remote central locking front electric windows abs air conditioning power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag immobiliser 1 owner, black, 9000 miles, £7995, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C3, 5, 1 registered keeper franchise approved remote central locking electric windows electric mirrors abs air conditioning power steering side airbags immobiliser, grey, 12238 miles, £5795, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

C3, 5, remote central locking front electric windows abs air conditioning power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag cruise control alloy wheels full service history £35 road tax, blue, 5000 miles, £11995, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C3, 5, central locking front electric windows remote central locking abs power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag air conditioning, red, 18500 miles, £5995, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C3, 5, 2 registered keepers central locking remote central locking front electric windows abs air conditioning power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag air conditioning, silver, 20000 miles, £6295, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C3, 5, remote central locking electric windows electric mirrors abs climate control power steering drivers airbag alloy wheels full service history, tuscan blue, 13000 miles, £8995, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C3, 5, 2 registered keepers central locking remote central locking front electric windows abs climate control power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag cruise control immobiliser alloy wheels, silver, 16000 miles, £5995, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C3, 5, 1 registered keeper franchise approved remote central locking front electric windows electric mirrors air conditioning power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag side airbags immobiliser, grey, 18882 miles, £5995, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

C4 Picasso, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer remote central locking, gold, 34800 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4 Picasso, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player cruise control diesel traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue, 32429 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE

C4 Picasso, 2008, air conditioning cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player sliding rear seats split folding rear seats tinted glass tonneau cover twin airbags remote central locking height adj drivers seat, black, 4429 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4 Picasso, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights immobiliser traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls adjustable steering column front armrest rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, red, 10167 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4 Picasso, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, grey, 24500 miles, £12300, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4 Picasso, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, red metallic, 8000 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4 Picasso, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player climate control diesel electric windows immobiliser mp3 player isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue, 48000 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIAT

BRAVO, DYNAMIC, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows power steering trip computer, standard, 9663 miles, £8500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £13990, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, black, 55 miles, £13980, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, black, 55 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.4 (120ps) Tjet Dynamic, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player climate control fmp3 player curtain airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls adaptive cruise control with emergency brake assist, red, 17647 miles, £7500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 2.0 MULTIJET 165 SPORT, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player climate control cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats sports seats tonneau cover trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote remote audio controls, white, 1500 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, Active Sport, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, red metallic, 160 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, black, 256 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, red, 7812 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, black, 762 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, black, 50 miles, £16100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FORD

FIESTA, Style Climate, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player moodust silver, 10101 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Style Climate, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking, blue, 15380 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Style Climate, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking, panther black, 35985 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 ZETEC CLIMATE (0% FINANCE NOW AVAILABLE), 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows metallic paint multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection), black, 55327 miles, £6299, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Zetec, 2008, ink blue, 9485 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

HONDA

CIVIC, 2.2 SE CTDi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows full power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, night hawk black, 14567 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CIVIC, 2.2EXEC, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player satellite navigation, silver, 56879 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CIVIC, EXECUTIVE, 2002, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player climate control electric windows front fog lights heated seats metallic paint leather interior trip computer remote central locking adjustable steering column 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, red, 47000 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CIVIC, IMAGINE VTEC AUTO, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint remote audio controls rear headrests height adj drivers seat, silver, 32975 miles, £4350, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CR-V, EXECUTIVE, 2004, 4x4 abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control front fog lights metallic paint traction control trip computer remote central locking adjustable steering column 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, silver, 57222 miles, £8000, Tunbridge Wells, 08448 759297 (TRADE)
CR-V, EXECUTIVE, 2004, 4x4 abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights metallic paint power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking adjustable steering column 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, silver, 57222 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CR-V, ES, 2007, 4x4 abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history metallic paint power fold mirrors power steering sliding rear seats trip computer remote central locking adjustable steering column 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, blue, 26000 miles, £15000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CR-V, SPORT, 2005, 4x4 abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history power steering trip computer remote central locking adjustable steering column 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, silver, 82500 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE

JAGUAR

S-TYPE, V6 SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control cruise control electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, grey, 27706 miles, £15500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, 2.7d XS, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission bluetooth car kit climate control diesel electric windows full service history heated seats immobiliser satellite navigation traction control trip computer front parking sensors remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls jaguar voice adjustable steering column heated door mirrors, metallic indigo, 33467 miles, £16900, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, V6 SE, 2004, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking cruise control diesel drivers airbag immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking, blue, 58840 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, V6 SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation, emerald, 58900 miles, £15000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, 2.7, 2007, red, 41440 miles, £29000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, V6 SE, 2000, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid sunroof, beige, 65468 miles, £4500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MERCEDES BENZ

C-CLASS, C220cdi elegance auto, 2005, jasper blue metallic with grey cloth interior, 111000 miles, £6850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

C-CLASS, C220 cdi auto coupe, 2006, brilliant silver metallic with black leather, 119000 miles, £6950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CLK, 230 auto cabriolet, 1999, tanzanite blue with grey leather, 94000 miles, £3950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CLK, 230k sport auto, 2001, silver metallic with orion grey leather, 92000 miles, £4999, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CLS, 320cdi auto, 2005, silver metallic with grey comfort leather, 55000 miles, £15850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

E-CLASS, E320 avantgarde auto, 2002, brilliant silver metallic with black leather, 94000 miles, £6850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

E-CLASS, E55k amg tip, 2004, silver metallic with grey leather sport seats, 51000 miles, £15950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

M-CLASS, Ml270cdi tip auto, 2004, silver metallic with black leather, 54000 miles, £8950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

SL-CLASS, SL350 auto convertible, 2003, silver metallic with grey full leather, 47769 miles, £15950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

SLK, 230 K Convertible auto with two tone leather, kc04kvh, remote alarm, remote central locking, full leather, electric seats, cruise control, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, electric retractable hard top, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, radio, 16'' alloys, white dials electric folding roof, twotone black and cream leather trim, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fsA regulated, linerite blue metallic, 54000 miles, £10995, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

SLK, 200 K Convertible new shape with leather trim, ao56vjg, full leather, remote alarm, remote central locking, heated seats, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, colour coded body, front fog lamps, electric retractable hard top, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, radio, steering wheel audio controls, 16'' alloys, full black leather trim, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fsA regulated, benitoite blue metallic, 22000 miles, £16995, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

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Van market signals underlying confidence in the UK economy

by STEVELOADER

BRITAIN'S economic health can be gauged by van sales – these humble and often invisible vehicles are the blood in the nation's veins.

And while tumbling new registrations rang alarm bells during the recession, a recovery in numbers hints at a renewed vigour about the UK economy.

The sector showed a 15.1 per cent increase in registrations in August against the same month in 2009, and this maintained an upbeat trend for 2010, showing a 16.9 per cent surge since January.

But a spokesman for the motor industry body, the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT), said caution was necessary.

"The economy remains in the early stages of recovery and it will be important for the Government to help sustain growth in the forthcoming spending review," he said.

Industry watchers were encouraged though by a 2.4 per cent upturn in auction values for used vans during the same month after a three-month decline; sales under the hammer are where the cautious money is and when this sector starts to spend money again then confidence is starting to return.

Duncan Ward, general manager for commercial vehicles at auction giant BCA – which has a site at Paddock Wood – said: "Professional buyers were notably more active in August, buying stock to get ahead of the game before the anticipated hike in demand expected in September.

"Buying was still selective, however, with well-specified vehicles in good condition outperforming the market by a considerable margin, with little appetite for vans requiring refurbishment or repair.

"The buyers serving the retail market are looking for retail-ready vehicles to take away and sell tomorrow, not vehicles to sit in the repair bay or spray booth. High mileage and scruffy condition is a major turn-off, unless the vehicle is a rare and desirable specification."

He added "The budget market is more forgiving and tends to attract the non-trade buyer in greater numbers. A decent combination of condition, colour and specification is usually enough to stimulate interest even at a higher mileage, although obvious cosmetic damage is a big turn off."

MOVING ON UP: Industry watchers are encouraged by an increase in auction sales for used vans, a sign the economy may be improving

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HYUNDAI iLOAD

KOREA'S Hyundai – the world's fifth largest motor group – is now turning its ambitions to the van market where its capacious iLoad model is grabbing attention with the marque's five-year warranty and attractive pricing.

CITROEN BERLINGO

ARCH-RIVAL to the Renault is the Citroën Berlingo – also in its second incarnation – and much-loved by operators. It has also gone up in size slightly this time, allowing the French marque to slot the smaller Nemo model in below.

RENAULT KANGOO

RENAULT has a second generation Kangoo van on the market and this has several new derivatives too including this crew van model with sliding side doors allowing access to extra seating behind the front pair.

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'White Van Man' in the 21st century

by SAMDAVISON

VAN design has been revolutionised over the past decade or so.

Operators have seen economy, efficiency and flexibility soar, while drivers have enjoyed better performance, refinement and safety.

Much of the latter benefits have come about because of crossover designs from cars.

Initially, this was confined to smaller models derived from superminis or family hatchbacks, such as the Ford Fiesta or Fiat Punto vans; all that was needed was to blank out the rear windows and the driver could enjoy all the benefits of the equivalent car owner, including air con and a decent sound system

But the same philosophy has since travelled up the line to larger vans, which can sometimes be derived from the platforms of popular hatchbacks too, even if the van body is bespoke.

The range of van capacities has also widened, varying from as little as three cubic metres for a car-derived hatchback used by a courier company or perhaps as a small company's runabout, right up to a 17 cubic-metre delivery van.

Access has improved, too. Many larger vans have low floors in the driving compartment for easy access and most vehicles above the supermini class now come with at least one sliding door as standard to aid loading – many buyers also take up the option of a second 'slider'.

There is now a choice usually of side-opening twin doors or a high-lift tailgate as well, while cab doors generally have a reduced opening angle, with the double benefit of making it easy for a busy driver to grab the handle to close the door and also avoid it swinging wide and hitting something.

IT'S THE WAY AHEAD: This Renault Kangoo's stylish and well-equipped cabin shows just how far driver comfort levels have advanced

On the performance front, petrol driven vans may still be available, but they have been all but been displaced by the better economy and range plus pulling power low down in the rev range of four and five-cylinder diesels.

Diesel operating benefits are then compounded by extended service periods, lower maintenance costs and longer lasting parts.

The engine's partner – the gearbox – has also undergone a change.

A six-speed manual gearbox is normally the standard – a couple of cogs better than only a few years ago – but urban operators are turning increasingly to automatic, semi-automatic or clutch-less transmissions.

These can usually be driven with manual selection anyway, but are ideal for the stop-start traffic conditions of the town and city and can be as economical as a manual.

Van safety has also gained from the car market; along with driver's airbag and the option of passenger, side and front curtain airbags, there are active safety features including anti-lock braking (ABS), traction control (TCS), braking control (EBC) and electronic stability programme (ESP).

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JARGON BUSTING

ABS (anti-lock braking) – an electronically controlled braking system that stops the wheels locking up under heavy braking and prevents the tyres from skidding across the road surface, keeping the driver in control and helping to stop in as short a distance as possible.

TCS (traction control system) – helps prevent the driving wheels from spinning. Using sensors at each wheel, the system recognises when traction is lost and momentarily applies braking to that wheel to regain the traction.

ESP (electronic stabilisation/stability programme) – helps provide greater directional stability. It automatically senses any tendency for the van to slide and reacts by applying the brakes to one, two, three or all four wheels and adjusts the engine's power. In this way, it is possible that a skid is corrected even before the driver is aware that one has started.

In commercial vehicles ESP can also detect how a load in the rear compartment might affect the vehicle's handling performance.

However, the system cannot override the physical limits of the vehicle.

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by SAMDAVISON

Fiat gets market going with a Stop and Start

FIAT Professional's newly launched Doblo Cargo has won a batch of major honours within months of its launch in March.

First it was named Best Light Van in the 2010 Van Fleet World Honours – a top awards ceremony for the UK market – and also scooped the same event's Environment Award for the Start and Stop fuel-saving technology.

This was followed just a few weeks ago by the International Van of the Year 2011 award at the Hanover International Motor Show, the most important commercial and industrial vehicle exhibition in Europe.

Following in the footsteps of the original Doblo Cargo, first announced in 2000, the new model upholds its predecessor's reputation as a tough vehicle for the professional driver.

Fiat says the second generation vehicle offers even greater practicality, versatility, comfort, safety and fuel efficiency.

Not only does it have greater carrying capacity than before in both weight and size terms, but new suspension ensures the ride is improved. And a new range of Euro 5-compliant engines makes the Doblo Cargo cleaner and cheaper to run.

The Start and Stop system stops the engine automatically, without the driver turning the ignition key, whenever traffic conditions bring the vehicle to a complete halt, and restarts it when the driver wants to move off again. This can reduce fuel consumption by 15 per cent and decrease carbon dioxide emissions by around four per cent.

The Fiat is the only commercial vehicle in its class to have this function available across all engines – a major asset when trying to shave operating costs in competitive times.

"When new Doblo Cargo was launched recently, the model took the kind of step forward it has needed for the past few years," said John Kendall, editor, Van Fleet World at the time of the vehicle's award win.

"Among its attributes are new engines, a larger body option in the UK for the first time, and a well thought out vehicle that is good to drive.

"It is not only a significantly better van than its predecessor but, as already noted, is the first van to offer a stop/start system as standard with 2.0-litre diesel powered models.

"Research has shown that an automatic stop/start system offers the largest potential economy gain, while also cutting idling time and reducing noise in urban traffic."

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

YOU will see from the section's masthead that we are flagging up our forthcoming show, Business Week Live – and there's more about that inside from me and my colleagues who are putting it together. The message, in short, is: "Entrance is free, times are hard – why wouldn't you be there?"

Also check out our Big Interview with UKC-based Kent Business School director Prof Paul Phillips – does academia really have a handle on 'real world' business? Read it.

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Eurostar upgrade to head off rail rivals

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

HIGH-speed train operator Eurostar has announced a £700 million upgrade to its fleet running through Kent and to the Continent.

The work, starting next year, will allow expansion of operations to as yet unspecified new destinations and overhaul the 1994 train design and add 10 new trains to create a total of 38.

Legendary Italian car design house Pininfarina, has also been called in to create a striking new fleet identity.

Eurostar said the move has been enabled by a major restructuring of the business on September 1, from a partnership between the national railways of France (SNCF) and Belgium (SNCB) and UK Government-owned LCR (London and Continental Railways) to a unified corporate business jointly owned by the same trio and able to bid for the necessary private funding.

END OF LINE: Eurostar's new fleet identity will call on the Italian design flair of Pininfarina

Lucrative

But industry watchers see it as more than a coincidence that several other operators have expressed interest recently in going head to head with Eurostar on lucrative passenger services via the Channel Tunnel.

State-owned German rail giant Deutsche Bahn has already signed an agreement to use the Kent high-speed line from London to the Tunnel and enlisted the co-operation of the county's new High Speed 1 operator, which may also be up for sale as the new Government seeks to reduce the UK's debt mountain.

The German operator's opening shot is tipped to be a London-Frankfurt service linking Europe's two financial centres, and Eurostar could face further competition from other operators and consortia.

The sudden upsurge in interest is driven by industry realisation that more onerous security checks and overcrowding at airports is delivering a marketing coup to the railways against the airlines on top of their genuine city centre to centre travel advantage.

However, new operators face possible delays as they try to comply with 15-year rail safety regulations applied to the 30-mile Tunnel – Deutsche Bahn will begin running test trains on October 19.

As a riposte to this German statement of intent, Eurostar announced that the 10 all-new e3202 trains it has ordered will be 'interoperable', meaning that they can retaliate by running on Continental networks and opening up new services.

With a 900-passenger capacity, they will also have 20 per cent more seats than current Eurostar trains and cut journey times.

The interior treatment from Pininfarina is designed to raise the operating stakes further with "a contemporary, stylish environment in which passengers can work or relax", plus "the most advanced wi-fi and on-board 'infotainment' on any train in Europe".

One of the new trains went on public display this week in London and transport secretary Philip Hammond MP said: "The transformation of Eurostar into a single entity has created a company well placed to attract the resources and investment needed to deliver a world-class service.

"That's good news for passengers but also for the UK taxpayer as well, who owns 40 per cent of Eurostar International."

Jobs to go as Silver Spring revival goes flat

SOFT drinks producer Silver Spring is back in crisis just weeks after bubbling about a recovery from bankruptcy a year ago.

The Folkestone firm has said it must shed 30 of the 200 jobs at its Park Farm site in order to avoid losing the operation altogether, while the MD credited with starting the turnaround has now left.

But a new management team is confident that the company can now be rescued and already has equipment on site for a new £500,000 glass bottling line to support aspirations to move the company's products upmarket, notably through its 1870s mixers range, and become less reliant on the plastic bottled sector where it faces much bigger players with high volumes and lower margins.

Other new products are also in the pipeline said Silver Spring chairman Jonathan Halford, who added: "The board has had to make some difficult decisions to secure the long-term future of Silver Spring and that includes streamlining our operation. It is with great regret therefore that we have had to make about 30 people redundant.

STANDING DOWN: Former MD Neill Cotton

"Silver Spring is a business with huge potential and I am positive that we now have in place a team that can work with us to create a business we can all be proud of."

Mr Halford also complimented former MD Neill Cotton who was "standing down".

Mr Cotton was the subject of a Business Week Big Interview just a month ago and delivered an upbeat account of how he was called in as a corporate troubleshooter in mid-2009 only to realise that it was doomed – crippled by what he called 'a tragedy of errors' and by bullying from suppliers and customers alike.

"In its last full year the company had a turnover of £45 million – £10m was loss-making. We were losing a penny a bottle on some discount retailer/own label business," he said.

A new company and a rescue plan was set up in mid-September and after the 242-strong workforce was cut to 181, Mr Cotton reported last month that the company was turning over £35 million and in profit.

Comment

BUSINESS Week Live makes its debut on Wednesday November 10 – exactly three weeks after the coalition Government's Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR).

No-one is in any doubt that the CSR will be a bitter pill to swallow – we hope and pray it will do good, but know it will taste foul.

But what better time to take stock after George Osborne's fiscal blitzkrieg than to attend our Business Week Live show at Detling?

The consequences of the CSR will have been debated and the moment will be right to plan a strategy for 2011, which is already just around the corner.

And I'm happy that Business Week Live will offer solid foundations upon which to build or re-build rather than an exercise in tracing pretty patterns.

Instead of token celebrity speakers which, as a scribe I would welcome for the anecdotes and column inches they deliver, there is a roster of experienced industry experts at Business Week Live who can send delegates away with more than a few top tips that may rescue and re-energise their business.

Of course, my colleagues on the organising team want to build interest ahead of the event on November 10 by revealing the full list slowly, so you will have to keep tabs on these pages and www.businessforkent.co.uk all the way to the wire.

In the meantime, the show has enjoyed steady bookings for the stands – many of the best positions have gone already – and, equally important, the expected footfall of delegates sounds good.

Entry is free of course, but some proprietors and managers may question whether they can afford time to attend. I would ask, 'Can you afford not to?' when there is so much free advice offered, valued at £2,500 from one speaker alone (see story on facing page) or far, far more if it saves your company and valuable jobs – and the latter mean prosperity for us all. Take out insurance ahead of Mr Osborne getting to his feet – get registered at www.businessweeklive.co.uk.

BUSINESS EDITOR STEVE LOADER

GREETINGS: Global Greeter Network Conference delegates from around the world at Canterbury Cathedral

The world beating a path to Kent's door

THE first UK Global Greeter Network Conference has been held in Kent, ***writes Mathew Beech.***

The initiative has seen members of the public welcome visitors into Dover from cruise ships in a bid to pass on local knowledge to tourists.

Representatives from across the globe, including the USA, Argentina, Holland and France, travelled to Canterbury for the first conference.

On Sunday and Monday, September 26-27, the global greeters met to share and debate tips and ideas on how to welcome visitors. Visit Kent set up the programme in Thanet in 2007, modelled on the Big Apple Greeters scheme in New York, and was the first of its kind in the UK.

Greeters are volunteers who welcome travellers to the region. At the conference, a number of new greeters were awarded badges to show they have completed the training.

Chief executive of Visit Kent Sandra Matthews-Marsh said: "We're delighted to have hosted the first conference of this type in the UK. As we gear up to host the Olympic Games in 2012, we want to ensure we are fully prepared and ready to greet all visitors from around the world and show how welcoming Britain can be."

Head of Kent Greeters Peter Shaw said: "When I welcome visitors coming off cruise ships at Dover, or off the Eurostar at Ebbsfleet, they are delighted to see a friendly face, and have such positive things to say about the country at the end of their stay.

"It's the personal touch that they appreciate, and I never tire of meeting and greeting, and being able to demonstrate the best our country has to offer."

The founder of the original Big Apple Greeter scheme in New York City, Lyn Brooks, was among those at the conference.

She said: "I am thrilled that the Global Greeter Network conference was held in Kent this year. I was honoured to work with Visit Kent during the Kent Greeter start-up.

"This conference is so important because it brings together people from different cultures who all hold the same values: opening their hearts to share their love of homeland with visitors from around the world."

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Principal Paul Hannan on Hadlow College's excellent Ofsted results. See Spotlight on agribusiness later in the section.

BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

PROPERTY and auctions group Hobbs Parker of Ashford has expanded its telecoms arm by acquiring the IT customer base from Liquid Knowledge in nearby Charing. The expansion allows Hobbs Parker Telecom to offer complete communications and technology packages – 'converged systems' – for customers.

Hobbs Parker Telecom MD Robert Woods said: "By expanding the IT side of our telecoms group, we will not only be able to deliver first-rate office communications systems, but also to offer IT and hosting services alongside more traditional IT support and systems maintenance contracts.

"The acquisition makes us a unique one-stop option for companies of all sizes looking for communications and IT solutions."

Among customers transferring their IT package to Hobbs Parker Telecom are Ashford-based solicitors Hallett & Co.

Partners at Halletts said converging their telephone and IT systems through one company made financial and logistical sense.

Liquid Knowledge is to continue as a web and emarketing service supplier.

TASSELLS solicitors of Faversham has created two new partners, Ian Wessels and Susan Anderson, following the retirement of senior partner Stafford Day in March. Conveyancing executive Marion Paskell has also been promoted to a partnership manager role.

Ian Wessels is an expert in drafting wills, managing estates, probate and trusts, and a passionate historian and painter in his spare time.

Susan Anderson specialises in both family and employment law and enjoys travel, theatre, cookery, entertaining and reading.

Marion Paskell deals primarily with residential conveyancing and enjoys travel. She started her career in the travel industry and has lived in Malaya, East Africa, Germany and Malta.

KENT County Show has a new man in charge. As executive manager of the show's parent Kent County Agricultural Society, Roger Moore also takes charge of a portfolio of events and exhibitions now using the county showground at Detling, near Maidstone.

Mr Moore, who lives near Ashford, has a strong agricultural sales and marketing background. He said: "This is a challenge I am really looking forward to and I will be ensuring that the £1 million refurbishment of the Stanley Cornwallis building is completed on time and within budget for the start of the 2011 season. My other responsibilities include a new traffic management plan for the County Show in July."

CHRISTMAS tree grower R Schroeder of Kingswood aims to be the one delivering a tree to Prime Minister David Cameron for display outside 10 Downing Street in December.

This honour is the traditional reward for being judged champion Christmas tree grower by the British Christmas Tree Growers Association. The 12th annual event is in Suffolk on October 21. The competition is divided into five categories: pine, fir, spruce, container grown, and wreaths.

HORWATH Clark Whitehill, a top 20 UK accountancy firm, has changed its name to Crowe Clark Whitehill.

The revised name is designed to reflect the firm's position within Crowe Horwath International, a top 10 global accountancy network, while retaining history associated with Clark Whitehill in the UK – the firm is already known as Clark Whitehill to many, and particularly those in the City.

Motivator manager launches our show's speaker line-up

BUSINESS Week Live on November 10 has announced its first guest speaker – and he amounts to £2,500 worth of access to free training for every conference delegate.

NEIL ANNIS

That is the value placed on training provided by Neil Annis, whose talk at the free entry B2B exhibition and conference will be 'Secrets of an Inspirational Manager'.

This session will provide a no fads or frills look at a simple workable approach to being a great manager.

The Kent-based business motivator went into business eight years after a career with SMEs, blue chip organisations – including Warner Lambert and TNT – and UK business support bodies and has been the presenter of choice for organisations such as Business Link, the Learning and Skills Council, Investors in People, and regional development agencies.

Assignments have taken him across the UK, USA and Europe and he is behind an innovative online management training service that delivers expertise to all continents.

Organisers of Business Week Live will announce more speakers as the show, staged at the County Showground, Detling, near Maidstone, draws nearer.

But KOS Media commercial director Christine Davidson said: "We are delighted to confirm Neil, as management style can have a dramatic impact on productivity and the future of a business.

"And signing him also underlines how the show has been designed to deliver real benefits for challenging times and just as firms plan for a crucial 2011. We know Kent's businesses and entrepreneurs have felt the pressure, so this isn't just a turn up and chat event – it's a 'must attend'.

"We aim to provide advice, tools, knowledge and free services for business owners and managers to tap into; something tangible to take away and use to improve their businesses and increase their opportunity for wealth generation."

"We also recognise the time pressures upon delegates," she added. "Entry to the show is free, but finding a few hours to attend is a potentially higher cost, so we have made it easy with our innovative zoning system.

"This allows visitors, however long they have to spend attending, to go directly to the zone and companies they wish to see."

The show is open from 9am, with the conference opening address at 9.15am, and closes at 4pm. There is free parking and free visitor entry.

For stand booking, visitor registration and further details about the event, click onto www.businessweeklive.co.uk.

• ***See businessforkent.co.uk for KOS Media business editor Steve Loader's video update on the show.***

kos media BUSINESS WEEK Live

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Trading Places finalists keep dream alive

MOTHER and son team Sally and Tom Smith have been named two of Britain's most inspirational entrepreneurs, just a year after setting up on their own.

They are finalists for the 2010 Barclays Trading Places Awards on November 30, which recognises people who beat the odds to succeed in business. They could claim a share of the £50,000 prize fund.

Tom and Sally, from Cranbrook, started Bluebook Vouchers after the Kent Air Ambulance saved Tom's father's life following a gardening accident in June, 2009. Seeing a similar scheme while living in New Zealand, Tom adapted the voucher book concept to benefit his community.

It raises funds for the Air Ambulance, local organisations and charities through a book containing vouchers for discounts at over 90 businesses. The concept benefits everyone and encourages people to spend locally while supporting good causes.

Judges' chairman and MD of Barclays Business, Steve Cooper, said: "We hope Tom and Sally's story will inspire other budding entrepreneurs in Kent, who face similar difficulties, to come forward and turn their own business dreams into reality."

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BUSINESS WEEK

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Short but perfectly formed

CHIEF executive of Kent-based Holiday Extras short breaks division Simon Hagger has landed a top travel industry award.

He was voted Rising Star of the Year at the fourth annual awards from the online travel industry media service Travolution, seeing off competition from sector giants such as Cruise Thomas Cook and Ebookers.

Simon, 36, is Hythe born and bred and joined local success story Holiday Extras at nearby Newingreen in 1996, and went on to found the short breaks division.

As its name implies, Holiday Extras specialises in the services and add-ons that make up a holiday package and handles both trade and private customers.

Hagger was nominated and subsequently won one of the most prized Travolution awards for building the annual turnover of Holiday Extras short breaks to £30 million in five years, with more than 60 employees in the UK and Germany.

He said after the awards, staged at London's landmark Battersea power station and hosted by BBC presenter Jeremy Vine and celebrity Elle Macpherson: "To win against peers from such high-calibre companies is fantastic recognition for the new niché short breaks business we have built over the last five years, as well as for the entrepreneurial spirit within the online travel sector.

"Thanks especially to Holiday Extras, who believed in me and enabled me to follow my ideas through and, most importantly, to the dedicated team who have worked so hard to create this thriving new Holiday Extras business."

The entrepreneurial Hagger had set out to explore new avenues in the under-served online theatre and theme park break markets in 2005 and set up www.show-and-stay.co.uk, which became one of the UK's leading online theatre break providers within two years.

He said: "At a time when people were moving away from expensive overseas holidays and refocusing on what a UK break could offer, we looked at ways to provide something innovative to these potential new customers. Luckily, they embraced UK-based theme park and theatre breaks."

His company now works closely with Merlin Entertainments, the second largest attractions operator in the world, encompassing partnerships with Legoland, Alton Towers, Chessington World of Adventures and Zoo and Thorpe Park, recently expanding the business into Germany and an official Eden Project breaks programme for the Cornish eco-tourist site.

Picture: STEVE DUNLOP

RISING STAR: Simon Hagger, centre, with BBC presenter Jeremy Vine and Gail Kenny of awards sponsor Pure Genie

Education ticks

KOS media BUSINESS WEEK

THE BIG INTERVIEW

Rated one of the best in class within Europe, Kent Business School celebrates coming of age in December. The school was set up 21 years ago and operates from the University of Kent at Canterbury and a new campus at Medway. It has an increasingly international reputation, a roster of 1,800 students and runs satellite campuses in Brussels and Paris. Director Professor Paul Phillips, heads it and also chairs the UK Association of Business Schools. Far from being a blue-sky thinking academic, Prof Phillips covered the hard yards as a qualified accountant, marketer and international management consultant with Price Waterhouse before taking his MBA, and is an internationally recognised expert in the tourism, hotel management and e-business fields. With the UK Government calling on entrepreneurs to rebuild a shattered economy, Prof Phillips was able to give business editor STEVE LOADER a good overview.

PAUL PHILLIPS

IT WILL come as no surprise to learn that Kent Business School director Professor Paul Phillips regards education as the key to curing the UK's long-running economic ills.

He reflects on a pattern of short-termist skills training rather than long-term education, which both fails to create an adaptable and intelligent workforce or develop the quality people who can train changes in skills sets needed to respond to economic ups and downs all too evident in recent years.

"One of the things we are not good at in this country is transferring skills," he said. "People and the Government need to understand there isn't a tap of skilled people you can turn on and turn off."

However, he feels there is at least one lesson learned: that recession-hit UK firms have made more effort to retain trained people or ask all staff to share pay cuts to maintain jobs overall.

"Some companies would now rather endure and share pain so people can keep their jobs until things improve. Firms learned a lesson from the last recession and that is to keep hard-won skills and experience available," he said.

And he believed that firms which showed loyalty would be rewarded: "We have a far more mobile workforce today and companies that support people during the downturn get noticed. It's no longer all about pay and the package – people want to work for companies that reward their loyalty."

You quickly realise he is a man with a passion for all aspects of business and totally in keeping with Kent Business School's MBA (Master of Business Administration) course – an amalgam of the core business skills of accounting, marketing, human resources, and operations management.

He explains his thirst for knowledge and impressive array of qualifications and experience quite simply as: "I'm just a curious individual."

But added: "I had always had a passion for numbers, so accountancy was a bit of a calling though I quickly became bored with the same old jobs and the long hours. It was a bit robotic."

It was a boom time though and he joined big name accountancy firm Price Waterhouse to take up an international

PAUL PHILLIPS' CV

- **1987 – qualified as an accountant.**
- 1989 – joined Price Waterhouse.
- **1992 – completed an MBA at Cardiff Business School, University of Wales, and became a lecturer at the school.**
- 1996 – completed PhD in strategic planning systems.
- **1999 – joined the University of Surrey at Guildford as senior lecturer in strategic finance.**
- 2001 – appointed to the Charles Forte Chair of Hotel Management at the University of Surrey.
- **2004 – joined Kent Business School and later appointed director.**

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all the boxes for business

role, which included taking an intensive course as a computer auditor – "pretty cutting edge at the time", he recalled – and later leading to further expertise in the IT and e-commerce sectors and writing a book, E-Business Strategy: Text and Cases, published in 2003.

The new role at Price Waterhouse appeared to be the proverbial dream job: "Since it would take me all over the world and I could live where I wanted, it also allowed me to choose Barbados, where my family came from originally and where I then met and married my wife, Cleopatra."

He found himself working across the Caribbean and North America for blue-chip clients such as the World Bank, Guinness, Shell and leading hospitality and tourism companies – his particular area of expertise – but the travel took its toll.

"It sounds great, but I was away a lot and then came back to find that, like all idyllic islands, you can't go anywhere on Barbados without running into someone you know. I started to pine for the relative anonymity of the UK."

He also wanted to advance his qualifications, so he and his wife returned to the UK. He took an MBA at Cardiff Business School and was invited to join the faculty, launching an academic career that brought him to Kent Business School in 2004 as deputy director and then the top job.

He is proud that the school has climbed official UK rankings to be rated second for its business education quality and seventh in the management field.

"These are outstanding results and underline that we are first in our field for the South East. I don't think Kent realises what an internationally celebrated business school it has on its doorstep, but then universities are not great at publicising themselves to the outside world," he said.

"We have world-class staff here doing world-class research and producing students with great employability."

He also feels the 'real world' UK business sector fails to take the academic side seriously enough: "A manager or proprietor will think, 'I know the feel of my business and I don't need to listen to or talk to you about strategy'."

It is an assumption, he added, not found in the USA, where business and academia often work together and, indeed where business qualifications are more highly respected – and where the MBA qualification originated.

Nevertheless, consultancy work is an increasingly important and mutually beneficial area for KBS and, he stressed, can be extremely cost-effective for companies compared with fees charged by big name commercial troubleshooters, though he admitted, ruefully, that many troubled firms expect the school's help and advice for free or far less than is realistic.

International clients and collaborators are far more appreciative and he has gathered assignments and contacts all over the world. This also makes him well qualified to remind businesses in Kent not to be parochial and recognise that their markets are globalising.

"Take a small hotel in North Wales," he said. "Fifteen years ago it would be competing with other nearby hotels. Now it could be competing with a hotel in Australia.

"It's the same for a small business in Kent – its big rival won't be someone else in the next town, but someone on the other side of the world."

Prof Phillips is a keen sportsman and still enjoys playing cricket – he is an all-rounder – and is married with a teenage son and daughter.

LEARNING CURVE: Prof Paul Phillips in the lecture theatre at Kent Business School

PAUL'S TOP TIPS

- Be flexible – "Whether you are an individual or an organisation, you must have the mind set or mechanisms to change quickly – events of the past couple of years can only underline this."
- An educated work force is a flexible one.
- Try and make a positive difference – "Life is a challenge and people will often tell you that you can't do something for all sorts of reasons. Don't be put off."

DIRECTOR: Professor Paul Phillips is proud of the world-class set-up at KBS

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Offshoot magazine ready to celebrate the best of youth

LOTTERY funding has spawned a youth offshoot for the successful Nubia magazine based in Chatham Historic Dockyard's small business hub, the Joiners' Shop, ***writes Steve Loader***.

Fittingly, Nubia Youth Magazine will also launch on October 16, during Black History Month, the same time of year as its parent arrived in 2008.

Nubia itself was started as a social enterprise by editor and mother-of-four Angela Asieba, to enable young people to learn design and creative skills. And now they have their own magazine.

Angela's son, Jamaal, is the new title's young editor and a school sixth-former.

'It's really been exciting working on our launch issue," he said. "Many young people are happy that we finally have a publication of our own, promoting positive images, celebrating young people and their achievements."

The youth publication has produced a pre-launch issue online via www.nubiamagazine.co.uk and invited young people from all sections of the community to get involved.

Nubia fashion editor Gelisa, Angela's eldest daughter, is working on placement at the magazine before returning to university to complete her final year in business and fashion studies.

She said: "I've enjoyed working on Nubia Youth's fashion page in time for its launch issue and look forward to doing more work on the publication that gives a positive representation of our community and our achievements.

"It has really inspired me to also start my own business, particularly since there are no guarantees out there for graduates."

Fateha Begum, an economics graduate working as a volunteer for Nubia, said: "I've had the opportunity to utilise my marketing and advertising skills and am convinced its youth publication will be an instant success."

KCC insists street advertising hazard must be above board

ON BOARD: Street advert

COUNCIL officials across Kent, starting in Maidstone, are to crack down on so-called A-boards – street advertising boards on pavements – used increasingly to drive trade into shops and eating places.

There have been no restrictions before, but Kent County Council believes they have become a potential menace for shoppers, parents with prams, the elderly and those with visual impairments or mobility problems.

Some businesses also use them to overshadow neighbouring boards or other promotional material and KCC decided it was time to apply restraint and fair play in the way it has already done so with tables and chairs placed on footpaths outside cafes.

A KCC spokesman said: "Many of the companies that use A-boards are small businesses. Given the economic climate we understand they may be struggling to attract customers and an advertising board can attract customers, potentially bringing new income.

"We do not want to harm or damage business. By regulating the volume, size, quality and location of A-boards, we will make it fair for businesses. This will allow town centre firms to continue advertising for trade, giving them an equal chance to compete and minimise the problems these boards can cause."

The rebirth of Hadlow

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

LEADERS on the management team at Hadlow College have spoken of lows before the highs of its new 'outstanding' rating from education watchdog Ofsted.

Principal Paul Hannan joined the agricultural college near Tonbridge in 2000 as associate principal and witnessed the slide towards a damning verdict from education chiefs in late 2003 that the college was 'failing' – it had been turning over £4 million a year, but losing £1.5m.

"I was concerned by the lack of a system and effective processes," Mr Hannan told Business Week. "Effectively, this college was 10 years behind the times and in grave danger of going under."

With the departure of the then principal, the board of governors ordered a shake-up and asked Mr Hannan – who has 18 years in education behind him – for an assessment of the college's situation. "But the college didn't have much time – it needed to change, and fast, after a decade of neglect," he said.

"Unfortunately, that also meant recommending redundancy for 60 people [out of 160 staff] and a real danger of calls to 'shoot the messenger'."

Despite this grim message though, Mr Hannan was applauded by colleagues after delivering it: "Several told me it had been the most honest and open speech they'd ever had."

LEADERS: Paul Hannan and Lynda Brown have seen Hadlow College transformed

And the board backed his vision for change. He was appointed acting principal and later confirmed in the top job, though he recalled the college went through a phase in the crisis when it had so many 'acting' department heads that they were known as the 'drama department'.

What followed was a radical overhaul of college procedures and finance and data systems, leading to the full-time recruitment of finance director Mark-Lumsdon-Taylor, already working at the college on detachment from a City accountancy. A corner was turned in late 2005, when Ofsted rated the college 'good' in all categories.

The college was also turning inwards, shutting down external partnerships and concentrating on the core education function, a strategy applauded by energetic college vice-principal Lynda Brown, who arrived four years ago.

She said: "The key task was simple – make Hadlow a fantastic experience for students."

She also promoted the college expanding its ability to offer courses for the 16-plus age group. "School might not have been the right academic environment for them," she said.

"This is a second chance to get the skills for life, while they are also making up their minds what career path they want to follow."

Initiative

Some then become enthused by the hands-on activities of the college and its diverse farming, horticulture and animal husbandry, organised on strict business lines – Hadlow has invested in farms, farm shops and a tea rooms and garden centre.

Ms Brown said: "It's not work experience, it's real work, and many students stay on to take further career courses in the agricultural sector."

The college also adopted the Government-led Fresh Start initiative to attract second career entrants to farming or entice people to return to the sector.

The college's 24 'outstanding' Ofsted gradings across 27 categories takes Hadlow to the higher echelon of the UK's 250-plus further education colleges – a long way from the bottom five per cent placing of 2003.

Rural recovery on the agenda

RURAL Kent is being called upon to play a bigger role in the economic recovery in return for a greater say.

That is the substance of brainstorming started early last year by the Government-funded Commission for Rural Communities (CRC), involving entrepreneurs, communities and their representatives on how to release rural potential.

The CRC will be axed next year as part of the coalition Government's so-called purge of quangos to make way for a rural communities policy unit within Defra, but what is likely to be its last hurrah has resulted in an 'Agenda for change: releasing the economic potential of England's rural areas' asking that:

- More attention is paid to ensuring that economic policies and their delivery address the needs of rural communities.
- Local authorities and other public bodies show commitment to responding positively to community-led plans.
- The planning system be used to support rather than frustrate sustainable growth in rural areas.
- The communications infrastructure (broadband and mobile) in rural England is prioritised if rural businesses are to realise their potential and contribute to national economic growth.

CRC chairman Dr Stuart Burgess said: "After th coalition Government's emergency Budget it is clearer than ever that helping the release of this potential must be a big part of the next stage of our national economic growth.

"We are pleased the coalition's programme includes a commitment to ensuring the rapid roll-out of superfast broadband and will seek to introduce superfast broadband in remote areas at the same time as in more populated areas."

Conference call to growers

TRADITIONAL Conference pears could give UK growers a return on their investment in less than two years, according to Kent's globally-renowned East Malling Research.

The Sainsbury's East Malling Concept Pear Orchard, developed by Chingford Fruit, based near Dartford, and EMR, has produced an estimated 12 tonnes from 3,000 trees on one hectare – its first harvest since planting in March, 2009.

The pears will go to Sainsbury's stores across Kent, Essex, Sussex and Surrey. Technologies that have transformed the Dutch pear growing industry were used in the project, the first of its kind in the UK to adopt three different growing techniques and a standard control to identify the most productive pears for the British climate.

PEAR-FECTION: From left – Theresa Huxley and Francis Wheatley with EMR's Graham Caspell and Chris Atkinson

EMR experts also incorporated irrigation, 'fertigation' – combining fertilising with irrigation – mushroom mulch and root pruning into the orchard.

EMR farm manager Graham Caspell said the project had sent a strong commercial message to growers: "Although there is a significant investment per hectare, the ability to produce a commercial harvest after less than two years' growth makes the case for Conference pears a stronger one."

He added the new orchard was only in its first year yet already cropping on a par with traditional pear orchards and he was confident of even greater production next year.

EMR estimates that were UK growers to adopt the new techniques and methods they could produce 36,000 tonnes of British grown pears – nearly three times the 12,500 tonnes currently sold.

The investment is part of Sainsbury's pledge to increase English top fruit production to meet growing demand for British produce rather than imports. Dr Theresa Huxley, a Sainsbury's product technologist, said: "Pears are hugely popular. We sell 36 per cent of all English Conference pears, more than any other retailer. We hope we can persuade more growers to plant Conference orchards and help give customers what they want – UK-grown pears."

The move may also reverse a worrying trend. Many pear orchards have been grubbed up recently, with some replaced by apple orchards, putting UK pears on the commercial endangered list and making the country reliant on imports.

Francis Wheatley, Chingford Fruit's technical manager, said: "The whole reason we planted this orchard was to inform, educate and inspire the UK back into pear growing. Pears are no longer for heirs, but for now."

NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight will focus on hospitality, travel and tourism

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Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 50 years

1960 **50 YEARS AGO:** GILLINGHAM were forced to send out an SOS for a goalkeeper after Alf Bentley broke his arm during a reserve game with Margate.

Bentley's injury left Gillingham without cover for John Simpson, other than Cliff Balderstone, who was considered too valuable as a striker to be handed the gloves.

Manager Harry Bassett was frantically trying to sign a keeper on loan before the Gills' game with Crystal Palace.

The Kent FA handed an indefinite ban to Roy Campbell of Palmerston WMC after he was found guilty of violent conduct, but the Medway side escaped further punishment after it was ruled they had done everything possible to prevent the incident.

Campbell's brother Ron had been banned the previous season after hitting a referee.

1985 **25 YEARS AGO:** KENT denied Graham Cowdrey would be the latest player to join the exodus from St Lawrence after the junior Cowdrey brother was widely reported as saying he would leave his native county unless he could secure a regular first-team place.

Manager Brian Luckhurst said: "He has reassured us that he considers his future to be with Kent and that's the way he wants it to stay."

Tottenham Hotspur needed an own goal to beat Maidstone United 2-1 at the Athletic Ground in a testimonial for defender Brian Thompson.

Mark Falco put a strong Tottenham side ahead on 43 minutes and an own goal made it 2-0 just before the break, but the Stones pulled one back when Colin Barnes' shot was deflected past Ray Clemence. They nearly equalised when Jason Wheeler missed a late chance.

2000 **10 YEARS AGO:** TONY Pulis was effectively sacked as manager of Portsmouth when he was given a four-month "sabbatical" by the South coast side, ostensibly to allow him time to prepare his case for unfair dismissal from Gillingham.

Pulis had been sacked for alleged gross misconduct at the end of the previous season, despite taking the Gills to within seconds of a play-off final win over Manchester City at Wembley.

Lee Shearer missed a penalty, but then broke the deadlock as Dover ended a long winless run in the Conference with a 3-0 win over Northwich. Joff Vansittart and Lee McRobert also hit the target for the Whites.

Former Gillingham captain Alan Walker resigned as manager of Fisher in protest at budget cuts.

'Delhi training facilities are some of the best I've seen'

England sevens player impressed by Commonwealth Games village

By **STEVE TERVET**

ENGLAND rugby sevens player Dan Caprice says it was "hard to see what all the fuss was about" after arriving at the athletes' village in Delhi this week.

The 20-year-old has been preparing for the Commonwealth Games' sevens tournament which starts with Monday's pool matches, where England face Sri Lanka, Uganda and Australia.

Upon arrival in the village, Chatham-born Caprice was quick to praise the facilities and accommodation, but admitted he was still trying to drink in the magnitude of his surroundings.

Fantastic

"I don't think you can ever prepare for something like this," he said. "From what I read, I thought it'd be a bit of a state, but the accommodation's fantastic and it's hard to see what all the fuss is about.

"The camp's a lot better than what I thought and we've got some fantastic training facilities, some of the best I've seen anywhere in the world.

"I've seen Mark Lewis-Francis, [long-jumper] Chris Tomlinson and a few other athletes I've seen on TV. It's really strange looking around at everybody and figuring out what sports they all do. It's all about rugby for us, but I've been walking around the village trying to take it all in."

New Zealand start the sevens competition as favourites, having won gold at every Games since it was first played in 1998, while IRB World Series champions Samoa are also fancied to reach the final.

However, Caprice, who plays club rugby for Blackheath, has his eyes set on the very top prize and has vowed to seize his moment as he takes to the big stage with England bidding to better the silver they won in Melbourne four years ago.

"I'm looking to win gold, that's my dream," he said. "If we perform well and play good sevens, I'll be happy, but we're looking to at least get on the podium. We've been working hard all summer so we're just excited to go out and play now."

The top two sides from each of the four pools progress to Tuesday morning's quarter-finals, with the semi-finals and gold-medal match to be played later that day.

IMPRESSED: Dan Caprice says the England rugby team's accommodation and training facilities are first-class

MEDAL HOPE: Ashley Jackson and England
Picture: ADY KERRY

County athletes make solid start

SEVERAL Kent athletes made good starts to their medal hunt in the first week of competition at the Commonwealth Games.

As expected, both England's hockey teams made strong starts to their pool phase in Delhi, backing up their pre-tournament billing as medal favourites.

Chatham-born Ashley Jackson scored as the men beat Trinidad & Tobago 4-0 in their opening game on Wednesday. South Africa await in the final group game on Sunday ahead of the knockout stages next week.

Natalie Seymour, who plays for Canterbury ladies, featured in both games as the women's team beat Wales and Canada 4-1. The World Cup bronze medallists should be involved in Wednesday's final matches.

In the pool, Ellen Gandy came through two rounds in the 50m butterfly, finishing fifth in Wednesday's final. The Bromley-born swimmer also made Thursday's final in the 100m butterfly.

The lawn bowls finishes on Sunday and the women's triples could feature Kent representation.

Sian Gordon, from Whitstable, and Maidstone's Sandy Hazell combined to form two-thirds of the team which began the group phase with wins against Norfolk Island and Wales, before drawing with Canada.

In the badminton, Petts Wood's Carl Baxter gets his singles campaign under way this weekend. He made a good start in the mixed-team event, winning his opening match against Michael Brownlee from the Falkland Islands on Tuesday.

Several track and field athletes completed their events after this newspaper went to press, including Scott Rider, from Dartford, who qualified for the final of the shot-put.

DELHI DIARY

JOE MUSKETT, Bexley, 105kg weightlifting, Sunday

MONTELL DOUGLAS, Chatham, 4x100m relay, heats Monday, final Tuesday

NICK LEAVEY, Ashford, 4x400m relay, heats Monday, final Tuesday

DAN CAPRICE, Chatham, rugby sevens, Monday-Tuesday

MICHAEL BABB, Farnborough, rifle prone, Tuesday

Stevo England pick for Hong Kong Sixes

KENT all-rounder Darren Stevens (pictured) will be looking to go one better than last year after being picked to play for England in next month's Hong Kong Sixes.

Picture: ADY KERRY

The 34-year-old was part of the side that lost in the semi-final last year and will be hoping to make up for that when the two-day event gets under way in Kowlook on November 6.

Stevens has been named in a seven-strong squad together with Peter Trego (Somerset), Rikki Clarke (Warwickshire), Steven Croft (Lancashire), Jos Buttler (Somerset), Chris Nash (Sussex), and skipper Rory Hamilton-Brown (Surrey).

Stevens said: "I had a great trip last year so am delighted to be selected again. It was a shame we lost in the semi-final, but it was good fun. Hopefully, we can enjoy another good tournament and perhaps go all the way this time."

England will play Australia, South Africa and Hong Kong in the pool stage.

Bos a credit to club, says Kelly

DAME Kelly Holmes says Tom Bosworth's experience at the Commonwealth Games is an indication that Tonbridge Athletic Club is on the way back up.

Bosworth, who competes for Tonbridge AC, was due to make his major championship debut for England in the 20k race walk in Delhi on Saturday.

Holmes, a double Olympic gold medallist, was also a member of the Tonbridge club during her time as 1500m and 800m athlete, and says Bosworth's championship debut is a good sign that the club is continuing to nurture talent.

She said: "He's worked hard to get up to a level where everyone has an aspiration to be. It's great to have somebody like that coming through and representing their nation.

"I'm proud to be from Tonbridge and the athletic club is a fantastic club, it's really gone back up again and got itself on the map.

"It went through a little lull, but over the past few years there have been some incredible performances by the athletes."

Log on to www.kentsport.co.uk over the weekend for reports and reaction from our athletes in India.

BIG WALK: Tom Bosworth

Pictures: ALTHEA DUCATI

DECISION TIME: Shane Byrne struggled in the World Superbike Championship this season and was dropped by Althea Racing

Shakey's next move

EXCLUSIVE

By TOM HOWARD

British Superbikes return for Shane?

SHANE Byrne looks to have competed in his final World Superbike Championship (WSB) race after revealing he is in talks to make a return to the British series next year.

The 34-year-old has struggled to perform in his two full seasons in the world championship, and is now considering a return to the British Superbike Championship (BSB) following Althea Racing's decision to drop him from their team for the 2011 campaign.

The Sheppey rider has found the going tough, having recorded just one podium in his two years on the world stage and this season has been another difficult slog. Despite the lack of results and being outperformed by team-mate Carlos Checa, Byrne still managed to finish in the top-10 overall standings each year.

Without a ride confirmed for next season, Byrne admits he would ideally like to stay racing on the world stage, but a return to the BSB would not be a disaster. He has already been in contact with several British teams with regards to next year and the two-time champion was due to make the trip after the final round of the series at Oulton Park this weekend to open talks.

He told KoS: "There are possibilities in the WSB and in America and there are options in the UK. Options are stronger than possibilities so I will be taking a look at them.

"I would love to stay in the WSB, but only if I can get a competitive ride, I don't want to be just picking up top-10s.

"However, Niall Mackenzie has got three British titles and no-one has any more than that, I have won two championships and I would like to win four."

Euro rally series set for Lydden return

LYDDEN Hill race circuit will host the opening round of the European Rallycross Championship next year.

The circuit, based in between Canterbury and Dover, has hosted a round of the sport's top series for the past two seasons and has been rewarded with a place on the 2011 calendar after impressing motorsport governing body, the FIA. Next year's meeting, the first of the series, will take place on the Easter weekend of April 24-25.

Since the European Championship returned to Lydden Hill in 2009, the event has attracted thousands of motorsport fans from all over Europe and crowds are expected to return for next season's championship opener.

Circuit managing director, Amy Doran, said: "I'm delighted we have been successful and will bring this major European event back to Kent again next year. This year was only the second time we have organised the event and we were ranked third of the 10 rounds in the championship, ahead of more experienced organisers."

LINE-UP: Lydden will host the first European Rallycross Championship meeting of 2011

Reigning champion Sverre Isachsen won the last European event in Kent in May, finishing ahead of 13-time champion Kenneth Hansen and Sittingbourne's Liam Doran, who finished third overall in his debut season in the series and will aim to challenge for the title next year.

Last week, Doran finished third in the American Rallycross Championship meeting in New Jersey.

NEW DRIVER: Ben Collins, aka The Stig

Motorbase all set for a Stig weekend

MOTORBASE Performance are set for arguably their biggest meeting since they joined the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) when action gets under way at Brands Hatch this weekend.

The Wrotham-based team are in contention for six championships in the final meeting of the year and will field a mammoth nine car entry in the BTCC event and Porsche Carrera Cup races at the Kent circuit.

David Bartrum's team have come a long way since joining the BTCC in 2006 and have a realistic shot at winning both the independent drivers and team championships.

Motorbase are just 25 points behind leaders Team Aon, while their driver, Steve Kane, is 18 points adrift of Tom Onslow-Cole in the drivers' standings.

Motorbase will have the added bonus of a third car to help their challenge, with Ben Collins, formerly BBC Top Gear's The Stig, at the wheel. His inclusion could play a significant role in claiming the team's first-ever BTCC title.

Bartrum said: "It's a massive weekend for the team and I don't think a team has ever entered nine cars into an event. We've got a good chance of clinching the title which would be fantastic for everyone who has worked so hard this year. I think we have more than surpassed even our own ambitions this season.

"Obviously having Ben Collins join us should ramp up the crowd and we will be getting more exposure which is great. He's been thrown into the lion's den, but he could really help us."

While the BTCC has taken centre stage, the team's efforts in the Porsche Carrera Cup shouldn't go unnoticed with drivers in the mix for the Pro-am 1, Pro-am-2, Pro-am 3 and overall titles.

Racing at Brands Hatch begins at 10am on Sunday.

Hill title tilt at Brands

TOMMY Hill is one of six riders vying for the 2010 British Superbike Championship in the final round at Oulton Park this weekend.

The 25-year-old Beckenham-born rider has been a title contender ever since the opening race at Brands Hatch in April, and has the chance to lift his first British title if he can keep his 11-point championship lead intact. The final two races of the season take place on Sunday.

He said: "It's so close it could go any way, but I am in a good position going into the final round and I love Oulton Park, so I am happy."

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Mos face double trouble on road

INVICTA Dynamos' ability to defend their league title will be tested this weekend as they face their first road trip double header of the season.

A 6-1 home win against Bristol Pitbulls last weekend took the Mos to the top of the National League South Division One and the two clubs meet again in the reverse fixture on Sunday, less than 24 hours after visiting title challengers Cardiff Devils.

New signing Liam Chong is in good form in front of goal, with the forward netting five goals in six games since joining the club.

Picture: DAVID TREVALLION

IN FORM: Striker Liam Chong

Picture: NICK DUNGAN

DTM series set to return to Brands

BRANDS Hatch will continue to host a round of the DTM German Touring Car Championship next year.

The Kent circuit has featured on the championship's schedule for the last four years and the series will be returning to the 1.2-mile Indy circuit on September 4.

The meeting is one of the circuit's most popular as it brings some of the world's best touring car drivers to do battle on the famous track. Formula One test driver Paul Di Resta won this year's DTM event at the circuit last month ahead of the returning David Coulthard (pictured).

REDEVELOPMENT: St Lawrence Ground

Putting a name on Kent revamp

KENT cricket members and supporters have been tasked with naming the two streets created by the redevelopment of the club's St Lawrence Ground.

Two new housing sites are set to be completed on the Bat & Ball site and at the top of the drive by next May and the club is keen for the two roads to have cricket-related names.

There are several rules governing the naming process, however, with the names of living people not permitted and any names suggestive of advertising also ruled out. Any proposed road names should not be duplicated anywhere within the CT1 postal district.

Initial voting closes on November 12, with the club then creating a shortlist and running a final vote until December 10.

To place your vote, email communications.kent@ecb.co.uk or write to: Name The New Development, Kent County Cricket Club, St Lawrence Ground, Canterbury, Kent CT1 3NZ.

Work on the cricket ground itself started last Monday and Bellway Homes, the club's housing partner, is looking to complete its two projects next year.

The underachievers

It's time for Gills to 'stand up and be counted'

By DAVID PRITCHARD

IT IS two months since the start of the season and the only area everyone connected to Gillingham agrees on is the team are punching well below their weight.

Few who turned out for the opening game of the season would have imagined after 10 games the Gills would be closer to the relegation zone than the top half of the table.

The message pre-season from players and management alike was supremely confident: immediate promotion back to League One was essential. Even making the play-offs would be regarded as failure.

After two wins from 10 games, 12 in all competitions, it looks an even bolder claim than it did at the time. It begs the question – and one that others are too frightened to ask – at what point does a slow start turn into something more serious? Injuries have played a part, but the squad were not immune at the start of last season and still they picked up more points from their opening 10 games in League One.

Gills boss Andy Hessenthaler's analysis has been characteristically candid.

"It's a good squad that's underachieving," he said. "I still say it doesn't help with the disruption of injuries, but I'm not going to hide behind that. It's a fantastic team on paper, they are great in training, but once they cross that line if you don't do what you're told there's always going to be a problem.

"It's time for all of us to stand up and be counted. I always said I'd assess after 10 games and my assessment is we've not been good enough. We have to turn it round in the next 10."

For supporters, particularly those who made the long trip to watch the 7-4 defeat at Accrington last weekend, it has been a trying start. With many loathe to criticise Hessenthaler, who was the majority's choice to succeed Mark Stimson in May, the attention has turned to the players.

Alan Liptrott, co-editor of fan site GillsConnect.com, believes that as it stands the squad is simply not good enough to finish in the top three.

He said: "I think most fans thought after relegation we would be favourites to go straight back up, but we need someone with that spark. I do feel we have to inject some quality in the side sooner rather than later."

Picture: ADY KERRY

DOWNBEAT: (l-r) Players such as Cody McDonald and Stefan Payne are lacking confidence

Awards bash for unsung football heroes

SOME of the county's unsung heroes were honoured this week as the Kent County FA (KCFA) held its Football Workforce Awards evening at Princes Park in Dartford.

As many as 19 awards were handed out by former Chelsea defender Paul Elliott to a range of volunteers, coaches, league officials and referees for their outstanding contributions to the sport.

Among those honoured was Deal-based referee Bernie Grivell, who has officiated at various levels for 48 years, overseeing more than 50,00 players during his time in the middle.

A heart bypass operation 15 years ago failed to dampen Grivell's love for the game and he is estimated to have saved clubs £17,000 by his refusal to claim a fee for any game.

Barry Bright, chairman of the KCFA, said he was proud to be part of an evening which celebrated everything good about football in the county.

"This is one of the highlights of Kent football every year," he said. "Many of the winners are unknown because they quietly get on with their work on a volunteer level. They don't look for those rewards, they don't seek those rewards, but it's correct that someone says 'thank you'."

Gillingham ladies manager Ian Varley was named coach of the year, while Mark Rogers picked up the outstanding contribution to community football award for his work with the Sheppey Sunday League.

DEDICATED: The winners at the Football Workforce Awards celebrate their success

FA trophies cash vital to clubs

IN A financial climate where non-league football clubs are finding it increasingly difficult to survive, the prize money on offer for an FA Cup run takes on even greater importance.

The competition – and its lower-profile siblings the FA Trophy and FA Vase – offers all eligible clubs the potential to earn comparatively large sums, if they can string a successful run together.

Starting at £750 for the winners of the extra preliminary ties in early August, the rewards quickly escalate. As well as playing for a place in the final qualifying round, the five non-league Kent clubs in action this weekend had £7,500 riding on the game, a significant sum even for those in the Conference.

The bigger clubs, who enter at later rounds, have performed better than those in the Kent League over the last three seasons. But there are several who buck the trend, showing the difference a good, or bad run, can make on finances.

Hythe Town, who travelled to Ryman Premier side Concord Rangers on Saturday, have more than punched their weight. Three successive seasons of going through at least two rounds have seen the club outperform most of the county's sides, including Ebbsfleet United, who at one stage were four divisions above them.

As a result of this season's run the club plan to paint the back of the stand and make improvements to the playing surface at Reachfields.

Martin Giles, Hythe's club secretary, said: "It's something you can't allow for, but we're very pleased to have and lets us do things we wouldn't be able to do. If it wasn't for the cup money virtually everything would go on essentials such as utilities and the players."

At the other end of the scale the figures show the biggest underachievers are Ramsgate, with three successive exits at the first hurdle. The Thanet club's experience shows it is unwise to expect an income from the competition, as chairman Richard Lawson admitted.

He said: "You always go into the season thinking you'll get through two or three rounds and then kick yourselves when you go out in the first round, but you can't budget on something you can't guarantee."

INCOME FROM FA CUP PRIZE MONEY FROM 2008-09 UP TO THIS WEEKEND

£0 – Ramsgate	£8,250 – Erith Town
£750 – Lordswood, Herne Bay	£9,000 – Folkestone
£1,500 – Sevenoaks Town	£10,500 – Whitstable
£3,000 – Deal, Faversham, Margate, Tunbridge Wells, Ashford Town (not playing this season), Chatham Town	£11,250 – Erith & Belvedere
£4,500 – Cray, Welling United, Sittingbourne	£15,000 – Dartford
£5,250 – Beckenham*	£17,000 – Ebbsfleet
£7,500 – Tonbridge Angels, VCD Athletic	£17,250 – Hythe
	£22,500 – Maidstone
	£24,000 – Dover
	£28,500 – Bromley
	£95,000 – Gillingham

*Denotes one season only

Europe hit the right key

TOM HOWARD talks to a former European Tour winner charged with being 'general backslapper' in Colin Montgomerie's Ryder Cup winning team at Celtic Manor, where Europe regained the title after a titanic struggle

WHEN analysing how Europe won the Ryder Cup, the obvious answer would be the gutsy display of Graeme McDowell, but few would have put it down to a rousing rendition of an Alicia Keys song.

Millions tuned in to the 38th edition of the competition at Newport's Celtic Manor course, which will go down in history as one of the closest Ryder Cups. The rain-delayed event eventually finished on Monday with US Open champion McDowell winning the 28th and final match to secure a dramatic 14.5-13.5 victory.

While McDowell's cool win over Hunter Mahan at the penultimate hole may have won the cup, Tunbridge Wells golfer Jamie Spence, a support member – or as he puts it "general backslapper" of Colin Montgomerie's Europe team – has an entirely different version of how and why victory was secured.

The 47-year-old two-time European Tour winner, who was camped in the thick of the action at Celtic Manor, is convinced a re-jigged rendition of American singer Key's track, Empire State of Mind, by the entire team on Saturday swung the tournament in Europe's favour.

He said: "Friday morning was spot on, but when we had that long rain delay it didn't feel right, it was flat. That continued Saturday and then there was big meeting on the afternoon with a bit of music pumping and it suddenly came alive. That was the turning point.

"The team just gelled instantly. Everyone was singing Alicia Keys' stuff, but we were singing 'Newport' instead of the 'New York' lyric of the song. I think the meeting in the locker room on Saturday and the singing will be the moment I will always remember. It just changed the vibe. I went from being very worried about the result to feeling good about it."

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

TEAM PLAYERS: (l-r) Victors Ian Poulter and Lee Westwood celebrate

The event will forever be remembered by the atrocious weather conditions that forced the Ryder Cup into an historic fourth day. Spence admits there were genuine fears in the camp that the competition would fail to reach its all-important climax.

He said: "It was just great to get it finished because I must admit Sunday morning we looked at the course and I couldn't see us finishing the event. To think that it might not go ahead was a real low point and was devastating."

However, Sunday came and Europe produced one of their best displays in Ryder Cup history as they bagged 5.5 points from the six foursome matches. The efforts turned the scoreboard on its head with Europe leading 9.5-6 going into Monday's 12 singles matches.

Their form dipped on the crucial final day and it went right down to the wire with McDowell on the 17th hole in the final match. Spence said he felt the margin of victory would be close, but all that was quickly forgotten as he had the important duty of distributing the champagne to begin the celebrations.

He said: "I was never under any illusions. I said to everybody that the event would always be tight because they were two great teams.

"I just didn't know what to do. We sent three bottles [of champagne] out on the course under strict instructions to keep it under wraps. We didn't want to tempt fate if it had gone the other way we would got rid of it pretty quickly. I've never seen so much champagne in my life. It was just a continuous party afterwards and I think a few of the guys were not used to drinking that much too."

While the euphoria of the dramatic Ryder Cup win is beginning to settle down, Spence paid tribute to Montgomerie's meticulous captaincy and earmarked Ian Poulter, who won three of his four matches, as the team's Ryder Cup star performer.

He said: "I've been involved in the preparations for well over a year from the uniforms, to the locker rooms and the pictures. Monty didn't leave a stone unturned in the build up. I was standing on the balcony when it was all down to McDowell and I thought to myself, we could not have done any more.

"It's difficult to pick one player out but if I had to, I'd say Poulter. He was amazing and brought such a vibe to the room. I think there are better golfers in the team, but it's hard to find a better attitude than his. He would be the one who puts the music on and get everyone motivated. He is worth his place in the team all the time."

Reflecting on the event, Spence said he felt honoured to have a played a part in such a dramatic event, but is unsure if he fancies doing it all over again in Chicago in 2012.

ON SONG: Jamie Spence says European team players' rendition of an Alicia Keys' song was the turning point in this year's Ryder Cup Pictures: GETTY IMAGES

LIVE lessons from game's top stars

VICTORIOUS Ryder Cup captain Colin Montgomerie is expected to be among the stars heading to the London Golf Club next year as part of Golf LIVE.

The Kent venue, near Ash, has pulled off a coup to host the unique event, with up to 15,000 visitors are expected across the three days in May.

Montgomerie, Ian Poulter, Paul Casey and Retief Goosen were among the players involved in the first Golf LIVE, held at Stoke Park in Buckinghamshire earlier this year.

The concept brings the stars closer to the fans than ever before as they run tutorials on everything from the perfect drive to bunker shots.

All the sport's major brands will also be present in a tented village, giving the public a chance to try the latest equipment.

Austen Gravestock, general manager at the London Club, is thrilled the organisers chose to relocate to Kent.

He said: "Right from the outset of being made aware it was happening we were very keen with the idea and the experiential nature of the event.

"We believe we have the logistics to expand it. We really do believe in this event and in the people behind it and what a great line-up with Colin Montgomerie hopefully going to be leading a group of top players showing people how the game is played."

TOP TIPS: Paul Casey and Ryder Cup captain Colin Montgomerie Pictures: GOLF LIVE 2010

As revealed in Kent on Sunday last month, the club is unlikely to host another high-profile tournament until its plans for a hotel onsite get the go-ahead.

A final decision is expected in the next few months, but in the meantime winning the right to host Golf LIVE represents a timely boost for the county course.

James Goode, event director, said: "The move to the London Golf Club will allow us to develop the Golf LIVE concept even further and increase our capacity to 15,000 visiting golfers. We are very excited about working with the team at this world-class venue."

The event will be held on May 20-22 next year, with the possibility of it returning annually.

Duo targeting regional crown

TWO Kent golfers are still in the hunt for the PGA South Region Order of Merit ahead of the season finale next week.

The seventh and final event on the calendar is the Fairway Living Wildwood Invitational, held at Clandon Regis Golf Club in Surrey.

WINNER: Matt Ford

There are four players who can still lift the overall title, depending on results in the 36-hole competition on Tuesday. Jamie Harris, representing the Nevill Golf Club in Tunbridge Wells, lies fourth after three top-three finishes this season, but may need to win the event to stand a chance of finishing the season on top.

Richard Wallis, from Walmer & Kingsdown, goes into the event in second place. He led the standings until the PGA Southern Professional Championship last week, where Craig Cowper's second place was enough to catapult the Surrey golfer into top spot on the Order of Merit.

The event itself was won by Matt Ford, who shot a new course record 61 at Dale Hill in East Sussex. After shooting two-over-par in the first round, the Maidstone golfer was off the pace, but a stunning nine-under second round saw him rise to the top of the leaderboard.

The Tudor Park golfer finished three shots clear of the field, much to his surprise.

He said: "I missed the last two greens, but made good up and downs. I thought someone in the leading pack would overtake it to win the title, but at least I'd given it everything I could."

Pictures: GETTY IMAGES

LOVELY BUBBLY: Former European Tour pro Jamie Spence had an important role to play

ALONG FOR THE RYDER

EXCLUSIVE

By TOM HOWARD

Jamie Spence says being part of Europe captain Monty's team was an experience he will never forget

KENT golfer Jamie Spence says it was a privilege to play a part in Europe's nail-biting Ryder Cup success at Celtic Manor – but he's not sure he could do it again.

The 47-year-old from Tunbridge Wells was part of Colin Montgomerie's backroom staff for the 38th edition of the famous event in Wales last week. The rain-delayed tournament finished on Monday with Graeme McDowell winning the final match to secure a 14.5-13.5 point victory, which meant Europe regained the Ryder Cup.

Champagne

While Montgomerie and the players were battling on the frontline, two-time European Tour winner Spence, was tasked with making sure all the equipment and clothing was in order and he also had the duty of distributing the all-important celebratory champagne on the 17th green when victory was confirmed.

Spence was part of team meetings during the tournament and was present to listen to the rallying phone call the team received from golfing legend Seve Ballesteros.

Spence said: "I thoroughly enjoyed it. It was 16-hour days for 12 days, but it was a privilege to be part of. I went to the first tee for the first three games on Monday and it was just an incredible atmosphere.

"As a professional golfer myself, it must have been so difficult to control the adrenaline levels before you tee off, but they controlled their emotions so well. If you asked me if I wanted to do it again now I'd probably say no, but if you ask me next year I might say yes."

BUBBLING OVER: Europe Ryder Cup Captain Colin Montgomerie and Lee Westwood are mobbed at Celtic Manor after Europe regained the Ryder Cup from the Americans

• *See inside for a behind the scenes account of Europe's success and how a peculiar sing-a-long session in the locker room inspired the team to glory.*

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Kelly: fans scared off Games

DOUBLE Olympic champion Dame Kelly Holmes believes spectators have been "frightened off" attending the Commonwealth Games in India because of negative publicity, ***writes Steve Tervet***.

Holmes has been able to see first-hand some of the issues surrounding the tournament after jetting in to Delhi to fulfil her role as president of Commonwealth Games England.

Fears over health and safety have since given way to half-empty venues and security confusion this week and Holmes, the former Tonbridge athlete who won two Commonwealth golds and one silver during her career, admitted India's shortcomings would have far-reaching consequences.

She said: "Some of the smaller nations will probably think twice about making a bid just because they wouldn't want to have the effects that Delhi has had because of hosting these Games.

"The negative publicity isn't something anyone wants – this is an amazing country, but you can see people have been frightened off from coming. It's a massive Games – 8,000 competitors here from 71 nations – and Delhi has taken that on, but maybe they didn't realise the extent of what was required to host a Games.

"They're just finding their feet, which is not what you should be doing at the start or during a Games."

With television pictures showing swathes of unfilled seats at many of the sporting arenas, Holmes, from Hildenborough, near Tonbridge, revealed the Indian people were wary of throwing their support behind the Games.

"A lot of things said prior to the Games would have stopped people pre-booking their tickets," she said.

"There's not as many spectators as you'd want at the championship and the issue now is getting in to venues because your pass gets checked 10 times."

For more on the Commonwealth Games, see inside.

Picture: ADY KERRY

SPECTATOR: Dame Kelly has been in Delhi for the Games

• On Camp with Kelly, supported by Aviva since 2004, is Dame Kelly Holmes' mentoring and education initiative for talented young middle distance athletes. For more info visit www.oncampwithkelly.co.uk.

Fringe players key to Hess rebuilding

ANDY Hessenthaler's hopes of strengthening Gillingham's squad to turn the club's fortunes around continue to be hindered by a lack of interest for his fringe players.

The humiliating 7-4 defeat at Accrington a week ago left the Gills boss convinced he needs to add players to climb the table, but the playing budget is already stretched.

With the transfer window closed until January, the only way to lighten the load is by sending fringe players out on loan.

So far there has been interest in teenagers Connor Essam and Andy White from non-league clubs. While both need experience, Hessenthaler admitted it would make little impact on the budget.

"It won't free up a lot of funds because they're young boys," he said. "I'm not doing it for that, I'm doing it for them more than anything to get some games under their belts.

"We would have to move a couple more out on loan to perhaps bring in fresh faces."

The Gills have released Stanley Aborah from his short-term contract after the ex-Ajax midfielder failed to impress, making just one substitute appearance for the first-team.

Hess said: "We watched him in training and reserve games and he's not done enough."